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THE
ASIATIC SOCIETY OF BOMBAY
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REPORT

ON THE

GOVERNMENT DOCK-YARD STORES

AT

KIDDERPORE

1875.

O. S. G. P.—No. 136 G. M.—27-9-75.—50.

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BOMBAY BRANCH
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INDEX.

	Page.
Statistical Returns A and B	1
General classification of stores in the yard	*ib.*
Amount of surplus and deficiencies	2
Aggregate surplus and deficiency	*ib.*
Details shewing the value of the principal stores in each section	3
Arrears in ledgers under the present system	5
Difference between the actual stock and entries in the ledgers	*ib.*
Causes leading to such differences,—misapprehension of some rules	6
Defective system and delay in entering stores received	*ib.*
Discrepancies,—surplus stores	7
Storage	*ib.*
Absence of stock-taking by the store-keeper	8
Every article weighed or measured by the committee	*ib.*
Suggestions as to the store ledgers	*ib.*
Necessity for a greater personal responsibility	11
Excess of stores in the yard over requirements	*ib.*
Necessity for economy in indents	*ib.*
Necessity for an annual partial inventory to prevent the recurrence of deficiencies in stock; or differences between book entries and actuals	12
Store-keeper should sign the ledger	13
On change of naval store-keepers, survey should be held, and formal charge made	*ib.*
Paucity of store-godowns	14
Recommendations	*ib.*
Declarations	16

APPENDIX TO REPORT.

Note	17 to 19
Proceedings of the Committee	20 to 25

In the year 1599 a Company was formed in London, for the purpose of trading 1599.
with the East Indies. On December 31st 1600, Queen Elizabeth granted them 1600.
a Charter, to enable them to trade to the East Indies for fifteen years from Christmas
1600, and they were incorporated under the title of "The Governor and Company 1601.
of Merchants trading to the East Indies." In 1602 four of the Company's vessels, 1602.
the "Dragon," the "Hector," the "Ascension," and the "Susan," sailed, under the command of Captain Jones Lancaster, to Acheen, in Sumatra, and concluded with the Sultan of that State a Commercial Treaty (India Register Office, vol. F. L., unbound, page 1). (*See* memorandum, dated Board of Control, 7th May 1821, No. 396, of Political and Secret memoranda in the basement of the India Office.) This Treaty is the first engagement concluded by the Company with a Native Chief. (Aitchison, vol. 1, p. 303, gives a Treaty of Friendship with Acheen, dated 22nd April 1619). In this 1619 Treaty, as in most other engagements with Native States, is a clause prohibiting treaty relations with foreign powers without consent of Indian Government. The index to Aitchison's Treaties gives, under "Foreign Powers," a list of Native States subject to this restriction. In treaties with many Native States, too, a clause is inserted excluding, either partially or totally, all Europeans from their service. (See No. 122 of papers in basement, which gives a list of all Treaties having this clause). On the 31st December 1609, the Company's Charter was renewed for an indefinite 1609.
term. In 1611, they obtained permission from the Great Mogul, confirmed by 1611.
Firman dated March 1612, to establish factories at Surat, Gogree, Ahmedabad, 1612.
and Cambay. In 1615, Sir Thomas Roe was despatched from England as the 1615.
first Ambassador from King James I. to the Court of the Great Mogul, Jehangeer.
A Treaty was entered into with Persia in September 1617. On the 20th January 1617.
1635, a Convention was concluded with Portugal at Goa (East India Papers in 1619.
the State Paper Office, No. 160). In 1636, a rival Company, "Courten's Asso- 1635.
ciation," (Sir William Courten, one of the Gentlemen of the Bedchamber to 1636.
Charles I., being the original grantee), was started in London, and obtained a
license to trade with India. In 1642, the Company received its first regular 1642.
Despatches from Bengal and Madras, dated 3rd and 5th November, respectively.
In 1648 an English settlement was established in Madras. In 1650, the two com- 1648.
panies were amalgamated, and styled the "United Joint Stock Company." In 1650.
1651, the Company took possession of the island of St. Helena, which had been 1651.
abandoned by the Dutch. In 1655, a new Company, called the "Merchant Ad- 1655.
venturers," started, having obtained leave of Oliver Cromwell to send trading
vessels to India, and in 1657 the "Merchant Adventurers" coalesced with the 1657.
original Company. In 1661, a new Charter was granted to the East India Com- 1661.
pany which not only confirmed all former privileges, but gave authority to the
Company to make war or peace with any Prince or people in India. By Charter
dated 3rd April 1661, King Charles II. confirmed the Company in their posses-
sion of St. Helena. In 1662, Charles II. granted to his brother, the Duke of 1662.
York, a Charter for forming a new African Company (for purchasing gold and
ivory, and for importing African slaves to cultivate West India property). The
East India Company were compelled to surrender their African trade to this new
Company.—Agreement dated 16th October 1662.

On 23rd September 1668, Bombay was ceded to the Company by King Charles II. 1668.
for a pecuniary consideration. The island was part of the marriage portion of His
Queen, Catherine of Portugal, *vide* Article XI., Treaty with Portugal, concluded
at Whitehall, 23rd June 1661 (State Papers, vol. 1, p. 494). Sir George Oxinden
was appointed Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Bombay, and certain regu-
lations were framed. (Letter from the Court to the President and Council at Surat,
24th August 1668.) In 1673, the island of St. Helena, granted to the Company 1673.
in 1661 (see above), was captured by the Dutch. It was, however, retaken the
same season by Captain (afterwards Sir William) Munden. Having been captured
by the Royal fleet, a question arose whether this did not invalidate the 1661 grant,

so, on December 16th, 1673, a fresh Charter was issued, regranting the island in perpetuity to the Company. (These Charters are not given in the State Papers, but at page 96 of printed Collection of Charters).

1682. This year, for the first time since the date of the 1661 Charter, an attempt was made, in London, to create a new or second East India Stock, in opposition to the Company. In April 1682, Charles II., by the advice of his Privy Council, rejected the proposals, and continued the monopoly to the Company; and he also, by Letters Patent dated 9th August 1683, conferred Admiralty jurisdiction on the Company in the country within their limits, to enable them to seize the vessels of "interlopers" attempting to interfere with their monopoly (printed Collection of
1683. Charters, page 116). On the 27th December 1683, Captain Richard Keigwin, Commandant of Bombay, seized the Deputy Governor, Members of Council, &c., annulled, by proclamation, the Company's rights under Charter, and declared himself Governor in the King's name. On the 19th November 1684 the island was surrendered to the Company by the insurgents. This insurrection at Bombay was the origin of the first Secret Committee, such a body being constituted for the purpose of inquiring into the circumstances connected with the revolt. (Letters from the Court of Directors to Surat, dated 18th April and 2nd July
1684. 1684.) In 1684, the Presidencies of Madras and Bombay were constituted Governments.

1689. This year the Court seriously applied themselves to the best method of consolidating their position in India, in order to acquire a political *status* there as an independent Power. To this end they framed the following Resolution for the guidance of the Local Governments (Bruce's Annals, vol. 3, p. 78):—"The "increase of our *revenue* is the subject of our care as much as our *trade;* 'tis that "must maintain our force, when twenty accidents may interrupt our trade; 'tis "that must make us as a nation in India, without that we are but a great number "of interlopers, united by His Majesty's Royal Charter, fit only to trade where "no body of power thinks it their interest to prevent us; and upon this account it "is that the wise Dutch, in all their general advices that we have seen, write *ten*
"paragraphs concerning their Government, their civil and military policy, war-
"fare, and the increase of their revenue, for *one* paragraph they write concerning
1693. "trade." The parties in England styled "interlopers," continuing their persistent efforts to upset the Company's monopoly, the matter was referred to the King, William III., who, by Charters dated 7th October and 11th November 1693, confirmed 28th September 1694, again formally endorsed the Company's monopoly.—(Printed Collection of Charters, pp. 141 and 169.)

1698. In 1698, the necessities of the State induced Parliament to authorize King
* Act 10, Will. 3, cap. 44. William to incorporate yet another Company, designated "the English Company," and a Charter was granted for 21 years.* After the lapse of a few years, however, it was found that the two Companies could not co-exist, and the King himself recommended a negotiation for an agreement to unite them, and accordingly, in
1702. 1702,† the rival companies were fused under the designation of "The United
† 22nd July. Company of Merchants trading to the East Indies." The charter of 1698 is the foundation of the privileges possessed by the Company up to its abolition in 1858.—(*See* Bruce's Annals of the East India Company (interleaved), 3 vols., 1600 to 1708.) The "interlopers," or "English Company," in spite of their high pretensions, found themselves worsted by the superior intelligence and capacity for business of the Court of Directors, so that in July 1699, when the London Company's 100*l.* stock stood at 140*l.*, theirs (95*l.* paid up) was at 70*l.* In 1701, too, they signally failed to procure a firman from the Mogul. On the 27th April 1702 resolutions were passed by the respective Companies agreeing to unite, on the basis of a proposal for a Court of Directors, some from each Company, to manage the affairs of the amalgamated interests.

1701–2. In 1701–2 the Court was endeavouring to establish commercial intercourse with
1700. China, and also to open out trade with Borneo. In 1700 the Company established a factory in Banjar-Massin, on the south-eastern coast of Borneo, the hostility of the natives, however, caused its abandonment in 1707.—(*See* enclosures to India Foreign Letter, 10th May (No. 95) 1872; also Letter to Foreign Office, 15th March (1868), 1872, with Memorandum attached; also Parliamentary Returns in 1851 and 1854; and Treaty with Borneo, dated May 27th 1847, (State Papers, vol. 35, p. 14.)

An indenture, tripartite, between Queen Anne and the two Companies (the London and English), entitled the Charter of Union, was passed under the Great Seal of England, dated 22nd July 1702. A Court of 24 managers, 12 from each Company, was appointed to act, according to such rules as might be settled by the General Courts of both Companies empowered to make by-laws.—(Printed Collection of Charters, p. 243; and Bruce's Annals, vol. 3, p. 485, &c.) The Charter of the English Company (1698) was to be henceforth that of both; the London Company having resigned their Charters to the Queen, and the joint Companies were to be styled in future "The United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies." 1702.

In this year the King of Borneo granted the Company permission to erect a fortification for the protection of their settlement at Banjar-Massin, in Borneo. In the same year the Court of Managers, finding that the attempt to open commercial intercourse with China by means of their settlement on the island of Pulo Condore, was a failure, ordered it to be relinquished, and the garrison and stores to be transferred to Banjar-Massin. On the 2nd March 1704, however, these views were defeated by the Macassar soldiers on the island of Pulo Condore revolting, setting fire to the Company's premises there, and murdering the President, Catchpoole, and most of the English in the island. On the 27th June 1707, the natives suddenly attacked the English Company's settlement at Banjar-Massin, in Borneo, and though at first beaten off, they finally overpowered the English, many of whom were killed, and, as in the case of Pulo Condore, caused the abandonment of the settlement. Although, as we have seen, the rival Companies were virtually fused in 1702, yet still their representatives in India did not co-operate harmoniously, and it was not till 1709, when, by Act 6 of Queen Anne, the Lord High Treasurer Godolphin was appointed arbitrator, that their differences were adjusted, and their amalgamation completed. 1704. 1707. 1709.

In 1714, by a firman of the Emperor of Delhi, the Portuguese were allowed to import, by paying a duty of only 2½ per cent. Various attempts have been made to abrogate the privilege in question.—(*See* para. 25 of India Political Despatch, dated 19th August 1829; Collections to Political Despatches to India, 31 and 130 of 1872; and the Departmental Memorandum with the latter Despatch; Correspondence with the Foreign Office in 1851–52 and 1872–73; also, printed Memorandum by Mr. J. R. Melville, Assistant Secretary, Political Department, with Letter to the Foreign Office, dated 18th December (No. 1831) 1872; and Bruce's Annals of the East India Company; *see* also, Letter to the Foreign Office, dated 20th March (No. 1876) 1873, and their reply, dated 26th February 1874, enclosing Historical Protest from the Duke of Saldanha.) 1714.

At the present time (1874) all English Acts previous to 1727 are applicable to India. Measures are, however, now about to be taken to revise this arrangement. 1727.

By Despatch to Bengal, 23rd March 1752, the Court prohibited their servants from holding lands in India, either within or without the Company's jurisdiction, and also from undertaking contracts. 1752.

The Company continued to act under the 1698 charter, and no event of importance occurred until 1756, when the English settlement at Calcutta was attacked by a Native army of 70,000 horse and foot and 400 elephants. The settlement, Fort William, was compelled to surrender, and the residents, consisting of 126 Europeans, were thrust into a small pent-up cell, known as the Black Hole, from which only 25 escaped alive, the remainder having died from suffocation. On hearing of these disasters, the Madras Government sent a Naval and Military force to Bengal, under the respective commands of Admiral Watson and Colonel (afterwards Lord) Clive. The army consisted of 3,000 Europeans and Sepoys, commanded by Clive, who defeated Surajah Dowlah, Subadar of Bengal, on the 20th June 1757, at the famous battle of Plassey, against an army which numbered 50,000 men. In consequence of this signal victory, the English compelled the Nabob to surrender twenty-four separate districts (the 24 pergunnahs), and to permit the erection of Fort William. The Company thus acquired almost absolute authority throughout Bengal. Shortly after, the conquest of Patna took place, and thus the English authority in the Eastern settlements of India became established. 1756. 1757.

In July 1760, Colonel Clive returned to England, and was raised to the peerage. On 22nd October 1764, the battle of Buxar was fought, between the 1760. 1764.

English and Native Indians, in which the latter were utterly defeated, with the loss of 6,000 men and 130 pieces of artillery. Subsequently, Shah Alum, King of Delhi, threw himself on the clemency of the British, and made over to them the Dewanny of the Provinces of Bengal, Behar, and Orissa, and, by an imperial authority from the Great Mogul, the British were empowered to raise and to receive the revenues of the districts, ostensibly as the servants of the Mogul, but
1765. really as his conquerors. From this period of 1765, the East India Company virtually possessed the sovereignty of India. Consequent on these acquisitions, the Court of Proprietors, contrary, however, to the advice and opinion of the Court of Directors, resolved to increase the dividends of the Proprietors from 6 per cent., the rate fixed in 1755, to 12½ per cent. This step induced Parliament to pass a legislative enactment, limiting the dividends to a certain rate. (Act 9, George III., cap. 24.)

1766. The Company obtained, under a treaty with the Nizam, dated 12th November 1766 (Aitchison, vol. 5, p. 14), the territory known as the Northern Circars. In
1767. the following year, 1767, an Act of Parliament was passed, permitting the East India Company to retain possession of all the land it had acquired, on the payment of an annual rent to Government of 400,000*l.*

1770. On the 21st March 1770, by agreement with the Nawab Nazim of Moorshedabad, Moobaruk-ul-dowlah (Aitchison, vol. 1, p. 68), he was to be retained in his office of Subadar of Bengal, with a stipend of 31 lacs odd; this was reduced in 1772 to 16 lacs, at which sum it has since remained, 7 lacs being apportioned for His Highness's personal allowance and 9 lacs for Nizamut purposes. The reckless extravagance of the present Nawab has forced Government to step in and appoint a Commissioner in India to investigate his debts, and appropriate some portion of his personal allowance towards their liquidation (India Act (24th November) XVII. of 1873). During his stay in England his personal income is reduced to 6,000*l.* per annum (India Foreign Letter, dated 19th December (219) 1873.—(For Nawab Nazim's Papers from 1771 to 1806, *see* No. 3, Range 1, of Miscellaneous Board's Papers, in the basement; *see* also Bengal Public Despatches, 15th and 28th February 1823, answered by India General Despatch, 30th July 1823. *See* Vol. 5, Range 1, of Board's Papers in basement; also, Memoranda and Collections of Papers in the Political Department.)

1773. In 1773, Warren Hastings was appointed Governor General of India. In the same year, Parliament instituted an inquiry into the affairs of the East India Company. It was considered that the wars which had been carried on in India, the want of control by the Company over its servants, coupled with its financial embarrassments, imperatively called for some legislative interposition. Accordingly two Bills were introduced in Parliament, asserting the right of the Crown to the possession of all the land acquired by the Company in India, establishing a Supreme Court at Calcutta, enacting that no Officer of the Company should be appointed without the approval of Government, and that the Company's servants should be prohibited from receiving presents (bribes) from any Native Prince, and from entering into commercial speculations. (*See* Act 13 Geo. 3, cap. 63, sec. 24, Act 33 Geo. 3, cap. 52, secs. 62 and 63, Act 3 & 4 Will. 4, cap. 85, sec. 76). By Resolution of Government of India, dated 14th October 1820 (Bengal Political Proceedings of that date, p. 5), Political Officers were ordered to bring all presents from Natives to account; (this is in continuation of an order to other Government servants). With regard to presents, practically, in the Political Department, an Officer has, on depositing its value in the Treasury, usually been permitted to retain a present; but presents from Natives have been uniformly discouraged.—(India Foreign Letter dated 20th February (42) 1874, furnished for communication to the Colonial Office a summary of the rules in force in India as to acceptance of presents from Natives by servants of Government. Letters to Colonial Office, dated 10th October (1980) 1873, and 13th April (2077) 1874.) Minor alterations in the government of the Company were also effected by the above mentioned Acts. By Act 13 Geo. 3, cap. 16, commonly called the Regulating Act (it being the first legislative measure which defined any system for conducting the Company's affairs), it was stipulated that an individual must possess stock to the amount of 1,000*l.* to entitle him to *one vote* in the Court of Proprietors, 3,000*l.* stock conferred *two votes*, 6,000*l.* stock *three votes*, and 10,000*l.* *four votes*. Proprietors

must have held this Stock twelve months before they could vote. The Court of Directors consisted of 24 members, as ordained by the Charter of William III., each Director being required to possess 2,000*l.* stock. As regards India, a Governor General and four Councillors were appointed for Bengal, each to continue in office for five years. The Presidencies of Madras and Bombay were to obey the orders of the Supreme Government.

In 1774, Coja Cazar Gregorio, an Armenian by descent, but a native of Persia, settled in Bengal, and had his principal place of business at Dacca, which became a British dependency in 1765. He traded with a variety of ports, amongst others with Bussorah, in the Persian Gulf, and in 1774, as he was proceeding thither from Calcutta, he died at sea. Property of his, which reached Bussorah, was taken possession of by Mr. Henry Moore, the Resident, and, on the town being besieged in the same year by the Persians, he conveyed the proceeds for safe custody to Bombay, where he took out letters of administration, and in 1786 Rs. 89,594 were paid to the credit of the estate, subject to certain suits. In 1777, letters of administration were taken out at Calcutta for the deceased's estate in that Presidency by one Satoor Gregorio, to whom deceased had given a power of attorney to act for him during his absence and until his return. In 1779, Satoor set up a will, which was alleged to be at Bussorah. This was opposed by one Mighardich, who claimed the entire property at Bombay, as first cousin and next of kin. After a conflict of decision between the Sudder and Supreme Courts of Bombay as to grant of probate, the Privy Council, on appeal, ruled that Coja Cazar Gregorio died intestate. Mighardich died during these proceedings, and in 1787 one Parsedan, an inhabitant of Constantinople, claimed as sole devisee and executor under an alleged will of Mighardich, and also that by Mighardich's death he was now next of kin to Coza Cajar Gregorio. This was opposed by Arzumi, who claimed as sister and next of kin to Mighardich, and by one of her five children, "Sukias," a missionary monk of the Mechitarist order of St. Lazare of Venice, and then residing in Bengal. These Mechitarists are Armenian monks in communion with the Church of Rome, and in Austrian dominions form and enjoy the rights of a spiritual corporation. After much conflict of opinion in Bombay, the Privy Council, in 1798, decreed that the Court at Bombay should distribute the property according to the laws of the country of Gregorio's domicile at the time of his death, and meanwhile that Sukias and Parsedan should be reimbursed the expenses incurred by them. Accordingly, "Sukias" received Rs. 29,000, and "Parsedan" Rs. 41,179, thus reducing the original sum of Rs. 89,000 to a balance of little more than Rs. 14,000 for distribution. In 1807, this balance was invested by order of the Court of Appeal at Bombay in a Government loan, and it fructified till 1855, when it amounted to Rs. 2,29,135. Under Act 8 of 1855, sec. 51, all moneys that have remained unclaimed in the hands of the Administrators General for 15 years are directed to be carried to the credit of the East India Company "for the general purposes of Government." An account, however, must be kept, and the money paid to parties entitled whenever they shall make good their claim. Accordingly, the accumulations were made over to the Bombay Government this year, and advertisements continued to be periodically inserted, as they had been from 1815, in the local and English Government Gazettes that the sum remained unclaimed. 1774.

In 1850 a representation was made to the British Government by the Porte, on behalf of some Armenian subjects, and in 1855, at the instigation of the Governor of Bombay, an agent, the Rev. Isaia Misrek, came to Bombay, to prosecute their claims; in 1857 he presented his credentials to Lord Ellenborough, but died in 1859; further time was then consumed in obtaining a fresh power of attorney from these claimants, over 100 persons, scattered over Turkey and Austria. In 1862 the matter was brought before the High Court of Bombay, and in September the Chief Justice decided that, as Gregorio died intestate, and had Indian domicile, his property should be distributed amongst the next of kin according to the ordinary statute of distributions; that Mighardich, the next of kin, having died childless and intestate, his property devolved on his sister, Arzumi, his next of kin, and thence on her five children, among whose descendants it should now be distributed, although they had failed to establish a clear legal claim. The property, amounting in the aggregate to 22,298*l.*, was accordingly divided into five shares, three of which, viz., 13,332*l.*, were, on 10th November

1863 (Letters to Foreign Office, dated 27th February and 10th November 1863), sent, through the Foreign Office, to the Turkish Government, for distribution, the Porte giving an acquittance for the same, and indemnifying, in the event of any person making out a better claim hereafter. This same letter to the Foreign Office inquired whether the Austrian Government were willing to undertake the distribution of the remaining two fifths (8,959*l.*) among Austrian subjects, and give a similar acquittance; the Austrian Government demurred to the indemnity clause, and this was waived, in consideration of an Austrian law by which a rightful heir can, within thirty years, recover from the parties to whom property has been wrongly paid (*see* Letter to Foreign Office, dated 19th February 1864), and the Bombay Government were ordered to remit the Austrian shares to this country. The Austrian Government frequently applied for payment of their two shares, but, before the money was remitted from Bombay, other applicants appeared, not only for the remaining two fifths, but also for the three fifths paid the Porte for distribution. (*See* Enclosures to Political Letter from Bombay, dated 27th July (No. 37) 1869.)

One of these claimants is the Archbishop and Abbot General, or Superior, of the Mechitarist Order of St. Lazare at Venice, who claims under the will of "Sukias," the monk of that order already referred to, who, by will, bequeathed his share to the Order. (*See* Enclosures to Political Letters from Bombay, dated 31st May (No. 24) 1865), and 16th January (No. 2) 1869.) A copy of the will of "Sukias," made at Calcutta in 1789, and forwarded to Venice by one of his executors in the following year, is put in, but the original will cannot be traced at Calcutta. Some other Armenians, representing themselves to be descendants of "Miriam," sister and next of kin of Coja Cazar Gregorio, also claim the whole estate.

On the 2nd May 1870, Mr. T. K. Lynch, the Persian Consul-General, made an application, on behalf of the Shah of Persia, for the whole of Coja Cazar Gregorio's estate, on the ground that Gregorio was a Persian subject without Indian domicile, dying when on his way to Persia, and that "every Government "is entitled to the intestate estates of their subjects deceased, in whatever "country they may have died." Mr. Lynch was told, in reply, by letter dated 27th May 1870, that a copy of his communication had been forwarded to the Government of Bombay, who alone could deal with it. On 25th October 1873, the Chevalier Francis de Rosaz, "Advocate of the Court of Paris," forwarded two memorials, one from the Shah of Persia, the other from the Mechitarist Order of St. Lazare of Venice, supported by documentary evidence. (*See* Letter to Chevalier de Rosaz, dated 1st November 1873.) The memorials and accompaniments were forwarded to Bombay, and, in reply, that Government (Political Letter from Bombay, dated 18th May (No. 20) 1874) states that the documents forwarded by the Chevalier de Rosaz, were unauthenticated and informal, and they think his clients' interests prejudiced by sending papers which it is not in accordance with the practice of the Court to receive. The letter adds that the claims by descent must be gone into first, and, in the event of those parties failing to establish their title, then that of the Shah of Persia and any other applications will be considered by the Law Officers. The Home correspondence on this subject is in the Administrator General's Department, that with Bombay (as the Administrator General's Department does not send Despatches to India) is in the Political Branch of the India Office.

In 1774, after futile attempts at other ports of Borneo in 1772, the Company succeeded in forming a settlement at Balambangan, a small island lying off the northern extremity of Borneo. In the following year it was attacked by the Sooloos, and abandoned. In 1803 it was re-established, but, not answering the expectations formed of it, was definitively resigned in the same year. This terminates the connexion (which, as previously stated, commenced in 1700) of the East India Company with Borneo, as landowners in that island. In 1859 (*see* Political Despatch to India, 12th May (No. 22) 1859) a proposal was made, and afterwards withdrawn, for an Indian convict station in north-east Borneo. In 1872 (Political Despatch to India, dated 26th March (No. 32) 1872, the Italian Government wished to establish a penal settlement in the same part of the island. By Foreign Office Letter, dated 22nd May 1872, it was intimated that this proposal of the Italian Government was also abandoned.

In October 1778, Pondicherry was taken from the French. This, with the previous capture of several French factories and settlements by the Company's forces in Bengal, annihilated the power of France in the East Indies. 1778.

In 1780, Hyder Ali, who had raised himself from the position of a common sepoy to the rank of one of the most formidable Native Princes, overran the Carnatic, defeated the British, and captured Arcot. On 1st July 1781, the great battle between Hyder Ali and the British, under Sir Eyre Coote, took place, in which the former was defeated, and on the 27th of August following Hyder Ali again suffered defeat. A third and a fourth battle were fought with the same result. 1780. 1781

In 1782, the final overthrow and death of Hyder Ali took place. He was succeeded by his son, Tippoo Saib. On the 17th May of this year, peace was concluded with the Mahrattas, by the Treaty of Salbye (Aitchison, vol. 3., p. 49), through the mediation of Madajee Scindia. In the following year, Canara, a possession of Tippoo Saib, was invaded by the British, under General Matthews. In this year also Bednore was besieged and taken by Tippoo Saib. 1782. 1783.

In 1784, Mr. Pitt's India Bill (Act XXIV., Geo. III., cap. 25) passed. It established the Board of Control, consisting of six members of the Privy Council, appointed by the King, two of the principal Secretaries of State being always members. 1784.

In 1785, Warren Hastings resigned the office of Governor General of India, and Lord Cornwallis was appointed his successor. 1785.

On 11th April 1786, Mr. Burke presented nine articles of impeachment against Warren Hastings. Much of the Parliamentary Session in England was taken up in discussing the propriety of permitting the impeachment of the late Viceroy; this being conceded, Mr. Burke commenced the impeachment before the Upper House in the usual form. 1786.

On 13th February 1788, the trial of Warren Hastings began in Westminster Hall. It lasted seven years and three months, and ended in his acquittal. 1788.

At Poona, on the 1st June 1790, a tripartite Treaty (*see* 17 and 18, Range 1, of Board's papers in basement, Proceedings from 1784 to 1790, with Index) was concluded against Tippoo Saib by the English, the Peishwa, and the Nizam.—(Aitchison, vol. 3, p. 58.) 1790.

This year, by Military Despatch to Bengal, dated 4th August 1791, the Court of Directors repeated, in the case of the loans given by Europeans to the King of Oude, the rule previously laid down, and which they and the Secretary of State have always acted upon, that Government will never enforce payment of loans made by Europeans to Natives.—(*See* Memoranda by Mr. J. S. Mill and Mr. (afterwards Sir John) Kaye, with Home Letter dated 18th December (466) 1863, case of Messrs. William Palmer & Co., Hyderabad; Extracts from Despatches on this point, from 1787 to 1842, are appended to the above Draft Letter; *see* also Sir J. Kaye's Memoranda, with Home Letters, dated 30th July (1210) 1869, and 14th July (1376) 1870). 1791.

In 1792, the Marquis of Cornwallis concluded a Treaty (Aitchison, vol. 5, p. 145) with Tippoo Saib, by which the latter agreed to cede one half of his dominions to the English, to pay three crores and 30 lacs of sicca rupees, about 3,300,000*l.*, and to give up his sons as hostages for the due performance of the Treaty. In the same year, Lord Cornwallis also concluded a Treaty (Aitchison, vol. 5, p. 236) with the Nabob of the Carnatic. 1792.

On 12th August 1793, Lord Cornwallis carried into effect his celebrated measure of the "Permanent Revenue Settlement." Under this arrangement, the Zemindar pays a fixed sum down to Government, and he levies this from the ryots of the country and collects it by his own agents. The principle of the Zemindary Settlement is a share of the rent of the land with Government. In the Ryotwar system the collections are made by officers of Government; every ryot is understood to make his bargain with Government without the intervention of any middle-man. Sir Thomas Munro's principle was to assess each acre of the land separately; the ryot was then charged so much for the land which he cultivated. The Village Settlement, which principally obtains in Bombay, consists in settling with the village how much it should collectively pay. The officers of Government do not go into detail to collect from each ryot, they only collect from 1793.

each village the sum so assessed upon the particular village, according to the best estimate that can be made, and that assessment is generally regulated with some person of authority in the village, whom the villagers themselves put forward, and who goes by different names in different parts of India, viz., Zemindar, Patel, Malik, and Mocuddum.

On 28th October 1793, Sir John Shore entered upon the duties of Governor General as successor to Lord Cornwallis, and Major-General Sir Robert Abercrombie assumed the office of Commander-in-Chief under the Court's appointment of September 1792. At this period also, Civil and Criminal Courts were established in India, and measures adopted for improving the police of Calcutta.

From a passage (page 389, vol. 2) in a work entitled "Keppel's Expedition to Borneo," it would seem that a formal cession of the northern part of the island was made to the Company by the Sultan of Sooloo in 1793. No information on this point is traceable on the records of Government, nor does it appear that the rights acquired were ever realized or formally resigned.—(India Foreign Letter, 10th May (95) 1872.)

In this year (1793), Lord Macartney went on an embassy to China.

1794. In 1794, the sons of Tippoo Saib were restored to liberty. During this year the death of the accomplished scholar Sir William Jones took place. In 1794 also, Fyz-oollah Khan, the Rohilla Chief with whom a treaty was made by the Vizier of Oude in 1774 (Aitchison, vol. 2, pp. 11 and 14), under which the country of Rampore and other districts were granted to him in military tenure, died. Mahomed Ali succeeded, but a younger brother, Gholam Mahomed Khan, usurped the government, and murdered Mahomed Ali. This event led to the Rohilla war, in support of the Vizier's rights and authority. Gholam Mahomed's forces were defeated, and an agreement was subsequently entered into with the Rohillas (Aitchison, vol. 2, pp. 15 to 23), under the Company's guarantee, by which the Vizier granted to the Nabob Ahmed Ali Khan, son of Mahomed Ali, a jagheer in Rampore of the value of ten lacs of rupees per annum, and the Nabob agreed to pay to the Company, for the support of Gholam Mahomed, Rs. 1,500 per month out of the produce of the jagheer.

1795. In 1795, Captain Symes was deputed to the King of Ava, and effected a treaty (Aitchison, vol. 1, p. 205), from which it was anticipated that much advantage would result in our commercial intercourse with the Burmese Empire.

On 1st August 1795, an expedition was fitted out by Lord Hobart, Governor
1796. of Madras, to wrest Ceylon from the Dutch. On 16th February 1796, the army of Colombo capitulated, and Ceylon was then placed under the political control of the Governor of Madras.

1797. In 1797, the Earl of Mornington (afterwards Marquis Wellesley) was appointed Governor General of India, and Lord Clive (afterwards Earl Powis) was appointed Governor of Madras.

It having been found that the practice of British subjects lending money to the Native Princes and Chiefs was productive of much mischief, and that the Company could not effectually prevent it, an Act, 37 George III., cap. 142, sec. 28, was passed, rendering any British subject who, directly or indirectly, lends money to a Native Prince without the consent of the Court of Directors, the Governor General, or the Governor of a Presidency, liable to a prosecution for misdemeanour.

1799. In 1799, Tippoo Saib again allied himself with the French. On 22nd February, war was declared against him, and a battle ensued on 27th March, at Malavili, near Seringapatam, at which he was defeated. On 4th April, the British army, under the command of Generals Harris and Baird, who were ably assisted by Colonel Wellesley, laid siege to Seringapatam, which was taken by storm on the 4th May, when Tippoo was slain, and the contest thus brought to a close; Tippoo's vast treasures and territories were divided among the conquerors, and the members of his family were removed to Vellore. The conduct of these measures was entrusted to Colonel Wellesley.

On the 13th July 1799, the partition Treaty of Mysore was ratified.—(Aitchison, vol. 5, pp. 55, 68.) By this engagement, part of Mysore was ceded to the Company, part to the Nizam, and part made over to the Maharajah Kistnah Bahadoor, then a child, descended from the ancient Hindoo sovereigns of Mysore.

By Article 1 of the subsidiary Treaty with Mysore (Aitchison, vol. 5, p. 158), the Maharajah pays an annual tribute of seven lacs of star pagodas, 24½ lacs of rupees, or 24,500*l.*, in return for the military force maintained for the protection of his State.

In consequence of abuses of liberty of the Press in India, certain regulations were issued by the Bengal Government this year, 1799; on 19th August 1818, some more were promulgated. (Bengal Public Letter, dated 1st October 1818.) —(For Papers as to enforcement of these regulations, under Act 53 George III., cap. 155, sec. 36, in the case of Mr. James Silk Buckingham, editor of the "Calcutta Journal," for libels, extending from 1819 to 1823, *see* Board's Papers in the basement, Memorandum in Political Department, and Bengal Public Letter, 17th October 1820.)

By a Treaty dated the 13th May 1800 (Aitchison, vol. 6, p. 238), the Nawab of Surat surrendered the city of Surat to the Company, in consideration of a yearly payment of a lac of rupees, and one fifth of the clear revenue, after deducting all expenses. On the 24th March 1818 (Aitchison, vol. 6, p. 241), these payments were, by treaty, commuted for 1½ lacs per annum. Meer Jaffer, the last male recipient of an allowance from the revenues of Surat, died 21st August 1863. 1800.

In 1800, an Act, 39 & 40 Geo. 3, cap. 79, was passed, section 21 of which constituted the Ecclesiastical Registrars of the High Courts at the several Presidencies administrators of all intestate estates in those Presidencies and their dependencies. The provisions of this Act were modified in 1815 by Act 55 Geo. 3, cap. 84. At the time of its introduction into Madras in 1800, Mr. Gilbert Ricketts, then Ecclesiastical Registrar of the High Court, was continued in his office, and was entrusted with the administration of intestate estates in the Presidency. In 1817 suspicions arose against this officer, who died insolvent on December 4th of that year, when it was discovered that he had misappropriated close upon 50,000*l.* A Committee of the House of Commons reported on this case (Parliamentary Returns (Commons) 258 of 1829, and 623 of 1830), and eventually, in 1830, in accordance with the terms of Act 2, Geo. 4, and 1 Will. 4, cap. 75, the sufferers were reimbursed from the revenues of India. In 1841, Sir Edward Ryan, then Chief Justice of the High Court of Calcutta, appointed Sir Thomas Turton to be Ecclesiastical Registrar of that Court, and, therefore, *ipso facto* Administrator of Intestate Estates in the Presidency of Bengal, his five per cent. commission on all estates passing through his hands giving him an income of about 5,000*l.* a year. In 1848, when he resigned his post, it was discovered that in the seven years of his occupancy he had misappropriated a sum of nearly 80,000*l.* This involved another Special Committee of the House of Commons (Parliamentary Return (Commons), 440 of 1850, who suggested that the sufferers should be repaid from the unclaimed estates, *i.e.*, those that had remained unclaimed in the hands of Government for fifteen years; if persons (*see* Act 2 of 1874, section 62,) afterwards made good a claim to the estates they would have them. This reimbursement was effected under Acts 5 and 13 of 1851. Sir Thomas Turton having died insolvent, and Government having failed to recover from his sureties.—(*See* Judicial Despatches to India, dated 3rd July (No. 13) 1850, 2nd July (No. 11) 1851, Public Despatch to India, dated 3rd September (No. 22) 1851.)

In consequence of these scandals, an Administrator General to each Presidency was appointed by Act 7 of 1849, and rules for their guidance were laid down by Judicial Despatch to India, dated 16th October (No. 19) 1850. The following India Acts relate to the duties of the Administrators General,—2 of 1850, 8 of 1855, 26 of 1860, 24 of 1867, and 2 of 1874. The Administrator General of Bengal receives a commission of three per cent. on estates passing through his hands, the Administrators General of Madras and Bombay five per cent. (*see* section 52 of Act 2 of 1874). Act 7 of 1848, secs. 11 to 18, provides that schedules of estates administered by the Administrators General be prepared up to 31st December and 30th June each year, be audited, and be published in the "Calcutta Gazette," then forwarded to England and published in the "London Gazette." Para. 9 of Judicial Despatch to India, dated 16th October (No. 19) 1850, and para. 4 of Public Despatch to India, dated 19th November (No. 33) 1851, stated that, instead of inserting the schedules in the "London Gazette," which involved unnecessary expense, the Court preferred to advertise the arrival of the schedules, and that they were open to inspection at the India House.

Under Act 2 of 1874, section 44, discretion is vested in the Secretary of State to determine whether or no the schedules should be inserted in the "London Gazette" and "other leading newspapers." Schedules are filed in the Administrator General's Department, India Office, Bengal from 1815, Madras, 1801, Bombay, 1818, and notice of their arrival is usually advertised in the "London Gazette" and the "Times."

The 1849 Act was found not to have disposed of all the malpractices connected with the official administration of estates in India, for when Mr. William Ambrose Serle, formerly Ecclesiastical Registrar at Madras, and afterwards Administrator General and Official Trustee to that Presidency, came home on furlough in 1855, it was found that there were irregularities in his accounts, and at his death on December 24th, 1860, it transpired that he had embezzled nearly 5,000*l.*; of this about 4,000*l.* was repaid by Government to the sufferers, Mr. Serle having died insolvent, and the residue, which was entrusted to Mr. Serle in his private capacity, was not repaid. A Mrs. Margaret Fitzgerald, for whom Mr. Serle was appointed official trustee in 1845, recovered nearly 3,000*l.* (For these transactions, *see* Public Despatches to Madras, dated 18th April (No. 21), 25th July (No. 36) 1855, 11th August (No. 38) 1858, 9th June (No. 23) and 27th October (No. 50) 1859, also Financial Despatches to Madras, dated 24th December (No. 96) 1863, 9th June (No. 46) 1866, and 8th November (No. 104) 1867.

By India Public Despatch, dated 20th May (No. 11) 1851, an official Agent was appointed in England in supersession of the firm of lawyers, Messrs. Brundrett, at that time London agents of the Indian Administrators General. Mr. Francis Clark, of the Military Department, East India House, was the first official Agent. In 1860 he retired, and was succeeded by Mr. Marmaduke Hornidge, of the Secretary's Office. On Mr. Hornidge's retirement in 1874, the post was conferred on Mr. William Macpherson, the newly appointed legal adviser to the Secretary of State in Council. Para. 3 of Public Despatch to Madras, dated 23rd March (No. 12) 1853, enunciated that the Administrators General were sufficiently paid by their commission of three per cent. to give advice, &c., to persons interested applying to them for advice and instructions, and that they must give them information, and not put them to unnecessary trouble and expense by referring them to private agents, and, to make this injunction still more explicit, Public Despatch to Madras, dated 8th February (No. 3) 1854 ruled that the official agent be sole agent of the Administrator General. Public Despatch to Madras, dated 23rd July (No. 28) 1856, orders that the account of estates rendered by the Administrator General to the parties interested are only to be charged for at the rate of one anna per folio of 90 words.

Certificates of baptisms, burials, and deaths are received at the India office, and the Indexes are in No. 93, ground floor—Bengal commence 1713, Madras 1698, Bombay 1709; those for Fort Marlborough, St. Helena, and Prince of Wales' Island were sent for a few years, from 1760, 1767, and 1805 respectively. Copies of wills, certified by the Registrars of the High Court at Calcutta, Madras, and Bombay respectively are also in the Administrator General's Department, India Office, duly indexed; India Wills from 1780, Madras 1778, Bombay 1783, Prince of Wales' Island (for a short time only) from 1806. Fixed fees have always been charged for searches for, or copies of, wills and certificates. By a Resolution of Council, 21st July 1862, a general search costs 2*s.* 6*d.*, special search, 1*s.*, copy of certificate, 10*s.*, copy of will, not exceeding 600 words, 10*s.*, 2*s.* 6*d.* for every extra 150 words.

1801. In 1801, a Committee, Messrs. Pattle, Rocke, and Hayes, was ordered to examine and report on the Nizamut accounts. Bengal Political Proceedings, 15th May (No. 39) 1806, contain the Report of this Committee, which is referred to in the Nawab Nazim's Green Book published in 1870.

1802. In July 1802, Lord Castlereagh was appointed President of the Board of Control. In 1802, also, the Mahratta Country was invaded by the English, in order to check the advance of the French. On 20th April, Arthur Wellesley was raised to the rank of Major-General, and appointed to the Advance Corps of the Madras Army.

By a Letter from the English to the Danish East India Company, dated 4th October 1802, compliance was accorded to the request of the latter, made in 1781, for

permission to import annually 200 chests of opium and 1,200 maunds of saltpetre. At the close of the hostilities with Denmark, the Danish Company applied for renewal of this privilege, but, not being under treaty, it was refused.—(*Vide* para. 26 of Bengal Foreign Letter, 7th December 1816. *See* Collection of India Board's Political and Secret Memoranda in the basement of the India Office; Index in Record Department.)

In 1803, the Fortress of Ahmednuggur, one of the strongest in India, was taken by assault under Wellesley. On 24th September, the battle of Assaye was fought, in which Wellesley entirely routed the Mahrattas. This victory virtually decided the Mahratta campaign. The battle of Argaum was afterwards fought, in which the English were again victorious, and the Mahrattas totally defeated. 1803.

This year (*see* India Foreign Letter, 3rd February 1803), all the Danish ships and property captured in the war were restored.

In 1805, the siege of Bhurtpore was raised, and the third attempt to carry it by assault was unsuccessful. Ultimately Lord Lake succeeded in effecting terms with the Rajah of Bhurtpore. During this year, Sir Arthur Wellesley returned to England. The Marquis Cornwallis, who had been re-appointed Governor General and Commander-in-Chief, arrived in India, and entered on his government on 31st July 1805. His Lordship's health suddenly gave way, and he died on the 5th October following. 1805.

On the 10th July 1806, the sons of Tippoo Saib, who on the death of their father had been placed at Vellore with a provision from Government of not less than 24,000*l.* a year, instigated a revolt, and massacred the European troops (Aitchison's Treaties, vol. 5, p. 57). For this, the family was removed to Russapuglah, a suburb of Calcutta, where a school was founded for the education and training of the younger members.—(*See* Board's Memoranda in basement, 48 and 49, attributing the massacre to a change made by the Company in the sepoys' turbans.) 1806.

In 1807, Lord Minto was appointed Governor General of India. 1807.

In 1811 the Dutch were driven out of Java.—(Nos. 39 to 47, Range 1, Board's Papers in the basement contains a narrative of the Company's relations with Java.) 1811.

In 1813, the Charter of the East India Company was renewed under certain restrictions, the trade with India was thrown open to public enterprise, that with China being alone exclusively preserved to the Company. On 4th October 1813, the Marquis of Hastings, then Earl of Moira, succeeded the Earl of Minto as Governor General of India. 1813.

On 1st November 1814, the British Government declared war against the State of Nepal. The campaign was concluded on 2nd December 1815, but, in consequence of an infraction of the treaty by the Nepalese, hostilities were resumed, and after several contests the former treaty was ratified on the 15th March 1816. By an agreement concluded with the minor Chiefs of Ceylon, dated 2nd March 1815 (Aitchison, vol. 5, p. 444), the King of Ceylon was deposed, on account of his inhuman cruelties, and the island became a dependency of the British Crown, Sir Robert Brownrigg being the first Governor (*see* Sir Emerson Tennent's Ceylon, vol. 2, pp. 87 to 96). By a salt, opium, and saltpetre convention signed in London on the 7th March 1815, the French, for a consideration of four lacs of sicca rupees per annum, 46,400*l.* (*see* India Revenue and Finance printed account), agreed not to manufacture salt within the French possessions in India. They were to be supplied with salt for domestic consumption at a fair price, based on an average of three years. 300 chests of opium per annum might be imported by them, and in the event of any restrictions being subsequently placed on saltpetre, they might import it to the extent of 18,000 maunds a year (State Papers, 1814–15, page 219). During the operations against Nepal, the conduct of the Court of Poona towards the Guicowar demanded the interposition of the British Government. Trimbukjee Anglia, a menial servant of the Peishwa, who had ingratiated himself into his master's favour, became in effect prime minister, although Sedasheo Munkaseer held the appointment. Repeated infractions of the Treaty of Bassein took place, while the Company stood in the character of arbitrator between the Courts of Poona and Baroda. The farm of Ahmedabad had been granted with other lands on a ten years' lease from the Peishwa to the Guicowar. Its renewal was an important matter with the latter. His Highness 1814. 1815.

deputed Gungadhur Shastree to Poona to accomplish this and other objects. The evasion the envoy encountered determined him to return to Baroda, and to leave the points to be settled by the British Government. At the urgent desire, however, of the Peishwa, Gungadhur was induced to relinquish this intention.* After visiting the temple, little thinking of the fate that awaited him, he was proceeding homewards, when he was fiercely attacked by five armed men, and literally cut to pieces. On this coming to the knowledge of Mr. Elphinstone, the Resident, he demanded of the Peishwa that immediate measures should be taken for apprehending Trimbukjee. After some difficulty he was delivered up and confined in the fort of Tannah, whence he escaped in December 1816. It was during this year, 1815, that measures were taken for exterminating the Pindarrees. (*See* Parliamentary Return (Commons), 27th May (370) 1818.)

Lord Amherst's embassy to China left Spithead, 8th February 1816, on board His Majesty's ship "Alceste." The Emperor of China would not receive them, because the Envoy refused to prostrate himself before a vacant throne. See a diverting letter from the Emperor of China to the Prince Regent on this point, dated 11th September 1816.—(No. 11, Range 1 of Board's Papers in the basement. For Memorandum of intercourse of Indian Government with China, *see* Nos. 25, 26, 27 (with Index) of Board's Papers, Range 1 in basement.)

On the 19th August 1816, Java was ceded by treaty to the Dutch.—(India Foreign Letter, 7th December 1816, paras. 40 to 49 and 52 to 56.)

By Article 16 of Treaty with Netherlands Government signed at London, 17th March 1824 (State Papers, 1823–24, pp. 202, 203, the Dutch Government had to pay 100,000*l.* before the expiration of the year 1825 on account of the expenses attendant on the transfer of territory to them.

By Political Despatch to Madras, dated 20th November 1816, the Court of Directors confirmed the instrument dated 23rd July 1816, conferring special privileges on Messrs. W. Palmer & Co., Hyderabad bankers. Finding that the firm were engaging in pecuniary transactions with the Nizam, the Court, by Political Despatch to India, dated 24th May 1820, cancelled the concession. When the firm afterwards appealed to the Court to obtain payment of sums due to them by the Nizam, the Court, by Political Despatch to India dated 7th September (2) 1836, reiterated by Despatch 28th July (15) 1837, directed the Resident to submit to the Nizam the justice and propriety of fulfilling his obligations, but they would not depart from their rule never to allow interference in pecuniary transactions between Europeans and Native Princes.—(*See* Briggs's "The Nizam," vol. 2, p. 164, also 400 of Board's Political and Secret Memoranda, No. 74 of Range K, in the basement of the India Office.)

1817. On 21st December 1817, Sir Thomas Hislop defeated Holkar at the battle of Mehidpore. Peace was concluded with him the following year.

For some considerable time past the conduct of Bajee Rao, the Peishwa, had excited grave suspicion. His treachery at length became apparent. It was discovered that he was in communication with Appa Sahib (who was suspected of being concerned in the murder of Bala Sahib, the late Rajah of Nagpore), between whom a combined movement was concerted against the British. The Peishwa took flight, and it was at this period that the gallant affair at Corygaum took place under Captain Staunton. This Officer, with a force of only 600 men and two six-pounders, and about 300 auxiliary horse, marched from the Deccan to Poonah and met the whole of the Peishwa's army, amounting to 20,000 horse and several thousand infantry. Captain Staunton immediately moved on the village of Corygaum, when he was attacked by three divisions of the Peishwa's choicest infantry, supported by immense bodies of horse and two pieces of artillery. The struggle was very severe, and the enemy at last abandoned the village. Captain Staunton brought in nearly the whole of the wounded, together with the guns and colours of his regiment. For his gallant conduct a special grant of 500*l.* a year was conferred upon him by the Company. After this defeat the Peishwa continued his flight to the southward, and ultimately got away to Sholapoor. A junction was now effected between Generals Smith and Pritzler. The fortress of Sattara was reduced after the opening of the mortar batteries, when Mr. Elphinstone

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* It has been stated that so great was the envoy's reluctance to persevere in his mission, that he only did so under an express promise of protection from the British Government.

raised the Rajah of Sattara's flag with the intention of restoring the Rajah's authority. General Smith continued the pursuit, and fell in with the Peishwa's force at Ashtoor, which he completely defeated on 19th February. The Rajah of Sattara and his family were brought into camp, and re-established by Mr. Elphinstone at their capital. The Peishwa ultimately yielded to Sir John Malcolm.

On the 16th of May 1818, the Peishwa sent to Sir John Malcolm, then at Mhow, requesting a personal interview. On the 31st the interview took place, and on the 3rd June a pension of not less than 8 lacs of rupees per annum was assigned to Bajee Rao for the maintenance of himself and his family, on condition that he resigned for himself and successors all right and title to the Government of Poonah. (*Vide* Aitchison's Treaties, p. 90, vol. 3, and India Secret Proceedings, 12th June (12), 26th June (74), and 24th July (22) 1818.) He died on the 28th January 1851. His adopted son, Dhondoo Punt, the notorious Nana Sahib, was the author of the Cawnpore massacre during the mutiny of 1857. 1818.

The Bengal Government, by Foreign Letter, dated 4th January 1817, pointed out that the Portuguese were endeavouring to export opium to China from Goa, and expressed a wish that the Court of Directors would induce the British Government to conclude a Treaty with Portugal forbidding such exportation. The Court, by Bengal Separate Department of Opium Despatch, dated 27th January 1819, replied that they believed Bengal opium to be the best in the world, that it would be useless to attempt to conclude a Treaty, and that the only way to defy competition was to sell a better article at a lower price than their commercial rivals. (*See* letter from the Foreign Office, dated 2nd May 1873, forwarding a letter from Messrs. H. B. Sleeman & Co., East India Merchants, Leadenhall Street, inquiring whether any such Treaty exists). A statistical account of Portuguese India, together with all Treaties between Great Britain and Portugal, from 1661 to 1850, forms part of Bombay Selection, No. 10, new series. 1819.

In 1822, the Marquis of Hastings quitted Calcutta, and Mr. Canning was nominated Governor General of India. Shortly after his nomination, however, the death of the Marquis of Londonderry took place, and Mr. Canning was appointed Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs; he consequently resigned into the hands of the Court of Directors the appointment of Governor General of India. Lord Amherst was then appointed, and assumed the office of Governor General on 1st August 1823. A Treaty, signed at London on the 17th March 1824, was concluded with the Netherlands Government, by which the island of Sumatra was ceded to Holland, and Malacca, &c., to England;* the contracting parties further agreed to repress piracy and to place their respective subjects in the Eastern Archipelago, India, and Ceylon on the footing of "the most favoured nation." (State Papers, 1823–24, pp. 194 to 203.) Up to the date of the transfer of the Straits Settlements to the Colonial Office, 1st April 1867, there is a quantity of correspondence, India and Home, on the subject of Dutch proceedings in Eastern Seas.—(*See, inter alia*, Board's Papers in basement, 13 and 14 of Range J.) 1822. 1823. 1824.

In 1824, the first Burmese war took place, and on the 11th May the city of Rangoon surrendered to the British troops. It was not, however, until 25th December 1825 that the Burmese were totally defeated.—(State Papers, vol. 11, pp. 203 and 849, and vol. 12, p. 422.) 1825.

From the year 1825 to the present time numerous applications have been made, both here and in India, from parties representing themselves to be next of kin to a certain Jean Claude François Bonnet, born on August 27th, 1715, at Fontenis, a village near Besançon, Franche Comté, where his ancestors were manufacturers of saltpetre and dealers in wood. This person went to India, and is stated by several foreign newspapers to have acquired a large fortune there as commander or owner of privateers. He was king-elect of Madagascar, and is represented to have died, without issue and intestate, either in that island in 1794, or at Pondicherry (where he was Governor and Commandant) between 1789 and 1793, inclusive, leaving in one of the Company's treasuries in India or England, a sum

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* *See* an excellent printed Memorandum from the Foreign Office, with Home Letter, 30th August (No. 1775) 1872.

of 3,000,000*l.* either in his own name or in that of Courtenay, derived from Bonnet. In 1829 the Duke of Wellington enclosed some letters to the Board of Control on the subject, and on February 16th, 1830, a circular Despatch was addressed to the three Presidencies, in the Public Department. The Madras Government seem, by Public Letter dated 3rd January 1832, to have once got on a wrong scent, but no copy of a burial certificate, will, or deposit of money has ever been traced either in England or India, and, consequently, a stereotyped answer is sent to applicants, that "all endeavours to obtain information respecting M. Bonnet" have proved fruitless. The last communication from India on the subject is Financial Letter, dated 12th December (No. 172) 1857.

In the record Department of the India Office there is a manuscript book (transferred on July 9th, 1874, from the Political Department) giving the correspondence on this subject from 1825 to 1834.

A *précis* in the Administrator General's Department, in which branch all the Home correspondence on the subject has been conducted, gives all particulars of the case from 1857 to 1871. A certain Miss Bonnet and her brother have received permission to search, without fee, all the documents in this Office and the Foreign Office bearing on estates and deposits. An English estate of the name of Bonnet, in which a Miss Jane Bonnet is interested, must not be confounded with the French estate. This latter and that of Coja Cazar Gregorio, already referred to, are the most troublesome cases in the Administrator General's Department.

1826. In 1826, Arracan and Tenasserim were ceded to the Company, by treaty dated 24th February 1826 (Aitchison, vol. 1, p. 213.) During January 1826, Bhurtpore was successfully besieged, and Doorjun Sal taken prisoner. At this period the death of Sir Thomas Munro took place.

1827. In January 1827, the Right Hon. S. P. Lushington was appointed Governor of Madras. During this month, also, Sir John Malcolm was nominated Governor of Bombay, in succession to the Hon. Mountstuart Elphinstone.

1828. In February 1828, Lord William Bentinck proceeded to India as Governor General, in succession to Lord Amherst.

1829. In 1829, the British Government abolished the rite of Suttee. Kurnaul, in the Punjab, lapsed. (*See* Bengal Political Letter, dated 30th October 1829, para. 44.) In this year, too, the naval force of the East Indies, which was constituted under Royal Charter in the reigns of Charles II. and James II., and designated the "Bombay Marine," was styled the "Indian Navy," and was called by that name till, in November 1862, it was abolished as a war service, and reverted to its ancient name of the "Bombay Marine." Up to the date of its abolition, the service, a popular and well paid one, was supported entirely by the Company. Since then, India contributes 70,000*l.* per annum towards the cost of the Royal Navy vessels of the Indian squadron, three of which are always in the Persian Gulf, and three in the Bay of Bengal and elsewhere. (Papers in Marine Department.)

1831. In 1831, under Article 4 of the Subsidiary Treaty with Mysore (Aitchison, vol. 5, p. 158), the Governor General, Lord Wm. Bentinck, finding that the financial affairs of the State were much involved, took the administration out of the Maharajah's hands, and vested it in the Mysore Commission (Political Despatch to Madras, dated 6th March 1832), a provision being made for His Highness under Article 5 of the Treaty. The Maharajah frequently applied to be restored to power, but without success. He died on the 27th March 1868, and his adopted son succeeded him. (Political Despatch to India, 2nd July (No. 11) 1868.)

1833. In May 1833, Lord William Bentinck was appointed Commander-in-Chief in India, this being the third instance in which the posts of Governor General and Commander-in-Chief were united in the same individual,—Lord Cornwallis in 1786, Lord Hastings in 1813, and Lord William Bentinck in 1833.

On 28th August 1833, a Bill was passed requiring the Company to surrender their trade monopoly, territorial management being alone reserved to them.

1834. In 1834, the deposal of the Rajah of Coorg took place, the country was annexed, and the Ex-Rajah and his family pensioned and removed to Benares. (He died in England in 1859.)

In this year (1834), an arrangement was made under which India pays one third the cost of the diplomatic service in China. This is now (1874) being revised.

In 1834, Natives were first admitted to magisterial office.

In 1834, in view of Colonel Chesney's approaching Euphrates Expedition, a firman was obtained from the Turkish Government, dated 29th December 1834 (Aitchison, vol. 7, p. 189), authorizing two British vessels to navigate the Euphrates and Tigris. In 1862, the Euphrates and Tigris Company obtained permission from the Turkish Government to put two vessels on the rivers, and these and the Government steamer, the "Comet," are now there.—(Foreign Office Letter, dated 24th July 1869, states that the Porte gave permission for another vessel to replace the "Comet." *See* Home Letter dated 5th August (No. 1215) 1869, and a number of Memoranda, with Mr. Lynch's Letter of 9th April 1874.)

In 1835, Lord Auckland was appointed Governor General of India. 1835.

This year, 1835, the Persian Mission was placed under the Foreign Office, the Government of India paying 12.000*l.* a year towards the expenses of the Mission. (*See* Secret Despatch of 1835.) In November 1838, the Mission was transferred to the India Office. In 1859 (Secret Letter to Foreign Office, 1st November 1859) it was retransferred, on the old terms, to the Foreign Office.

The Nawab Nazim of Bengal's personal stipend was in 1836 reduced to seven lacs per annum. (*Vide* Bengal Political Proceedings, 1st March (No. 16) 1836). 1836.

Major-General Chesney's Euphrates Expedition commenced on the 16th March 1836, and finished at Baghdad on the 25th January 1837. The House of Commons voted 20,000*l.* for the use of the Expedition; when it was found that this sum would be exceeded, they voted 8,000*l.* more, the East India Company giving 8,000*l.* also. The total cost of the Expedition was 29,637*l.* 10*s.* 3½*d.*, after deducting 10,360*l.* 12*s.* 9*d.*, the value of steamers, arms, ammunition, instruments, and stores turned over to the East India Company. (*Vide* Parliamentary Returns, Commons, 1837, Vol. 43, No. 540; 1837–38, Vol. 41, No. 356; Lords, 1837–38, Vol. 5, No. 75; and Correspondence in the Secret Department.) In 1850, Major-General Chesney published, in two bulky volumes, an account of the expedition. This is in the India Office departmental library.

In 1836, in consequence of a question arising as to whether the terms of the subsidiary Treaty with Mysore of 1799 (Aitchison, vol. 5, p. 158) were not overstrained in the arrangement consequent on the annexation of the Province in 1831, the Court of Directors, by Political Despatch dated 12th February (5) 1836, ruled that "Treaties are binding upon Chiefs according to the Native, and not the "English, version, and that in all Treaties sent home the Native should accompany "the English version." (*See* also Despatch dated 9th June (12) 1839. Political Despatch to India dated 16th November (137) 1871, however, says that "the "English version is to be the only authoritative one," and this ruling is always followed in India now.

Loodhiana lapsed, on failure of heirs, in 1836. (*Vide* India Political Despatch, dated 7th February 1838, para. 56.)

In 1839, the Cabul expedition was undertaken, in view to the restoration to the throne of the deposed Monarch, Shah-Soojah-ool-Moolk. 1839.

On the 27th June 1839, Runjeet Sing, Maharajah of Lahore, died.

In 1840, Dost Mahomed was defeated by the English; in 1841, the murder of Sir Alexander Burnes and Sir W. Macnaghten was perpetrated. 1840.

In 1841, Lord Ellenborough was appointed Governor General of India. 1841.

In this year, the first Moplah rising occurred in Malabar. These fanatics broke out from 1841 to 1843, and from 1849 to 1859. A telegram from India, 13th September 1873, reported an outbreak, easily suppressed. A compilation was published by the Madras Government in 1860, consisting of 2 vols., from 1849 to 1853 and from 1853 to 1859; the latter volume contains an account of the Moplah priest, Syud Fuzl, the murder of Mr. H. V. Conolly, Magistrate of Malabar, &c. Most of the papers on the subject of Moplah outrages are in the Judicial Department.

In 1842, the British evacuated Cabul, and were frightfully massacred on their retreat in the ~~Khyber~~ pass. Cabul was afterwards re-entered by the British 1842.

forces, the hostages and prisoners released, and the fortifications entirely destroyed, under the command of General Pollock.* Life pensions of 1,000*l.* a year each were accorded by the Court of Directors to Major-General Sir George Pollock and Sir William Nott, for their gallant services during the Affghan war. On the death of the latter, four months after the grant of the pension, a life allowance of 200*l.* per annum was voted to Lady Nott, and in 1867 a life pension of 100*l.* a year each to her two daughters, Mesdames Bower and Nicholett. Subsequently, on the recommendation of Major-General Sir Henry Rawlinson, further sums of money were given these two daughters.

Field Marshal Sir George Pollock, Bart., G.C.S.I., K.C.B., in curious contrast to Sir William Nott, drew his life pension for thirty years, and died, full of years and honours (he had been a Director of the East India Company, Constable of the Tower of London, &c.), on the 6th October 1872, aged 76, and was buried in Westminster Abbey on the 17th October 1872. (*See* Sir John Kaye's "Affghan War," for a clear account of that campaign and the transactions which led to it; *see* also volumes in Range K of Board's Papers in the basement.)

In March 1842, in consequence of disturbances in Bundelcund and Saugor, Lord Ellenborough made a sweeping change in the administration of these districts, and removed almost all the Executive Officers. His proceedings were approved by India Political Despatch, dated 1st November (No. 34) 1843.

1843. In 1843, Sind was conquered by Sir Charles Napier. The battle of Meeanee was fought on 17th February 1843, and from that period, Sind became a British Province. On 5th March, a Notification was issued by Lord Ellenborough, then at Agra announcing that this victory had "placed at the disposal of the British "Government the country on both banks of the Indus from Sukkur to the sea, "with the exception of such portions thereof as may belong to Meer Ali Morad, "and any other of the Ameers who remained faithful to his engagements." On 13th March Sir Charles Napier was appointed Governor of Sind. On 24th March the battle of Hyderabad was fought; and on the 31st of the same month, Sir Charles Napier issued a proclamation to the following effect:— "Inhabitants of Sind! The Talpoors have been conquered by the British nation, "and are dethroned. Sind belongs to them no longer. All revenues, as they "have, hitherto been paid to the Ameers, are now to be paid to the English." (Bombay Government Gazette, Extraordinary, 5th April 1843.)

On 17th April 1843, the Governor General issued an order, directing that, in all the territories conquered from the Ameers, no demand shall be made on the part of the British Government on account of any arrears of revenue due to the Ameers on the 17th February 1843.

The Resolution of the Court on this annexation will be found in the Court Minutes. Stipends, amounting in the aggregate to 46,614*l.*, were granted to the Ex-Ameers. (India Political Despatch, dated 12th April (No. 13) 1854.)

On the death of Ragojee Angria, one of his widows was alleged to be pregnant. She gave birth to a son, who was recognized as Chief of Colaba. The boy died in infancy, when the legitimate line of descent became extinct, and in 1843 the territory of Colaba was annexed to the British possessions.

1844. In 1844, Sir Henry Hardinge was appointed Governor General of India. He left England on the 7th June.

1845. In 1845, the Sikhs crossed the Sutlej, and attacked the British at Ferozepore. In the battle which ensued, General M'Caskill was killed, and Sir Robert Sale mortally wounded. On the 21st December, the battle of Ferozeshah was fought, in which the Sikhs were defeated by General Sir Hugh Gough, and other distinguished Officers. On 27th December following, the Sikhs recrossed the Sutlej. In this year, 1845, Sir H. Rawlinson, Political Agent, Turkish Arabia, came home for eight months (obtaining leave on private affairs), on purposes connected with the discoveries of the Nineveh marbles.—(Secret Letter from Baghdad Residency to Court of Directors, dated 16th June 1845.)

On the 22nd February 1845, an engagement (ratified at Calcutta on the 6th October 1845) was concluded with the King of Denmark, by which, in consideration of a sum of 12 lacs and fifty thousand Company's rupees (125,000*l.*), His

* Parliamentary Return (Commons), No. 1 of Session 2 of 1859. This return, which was first mutilated in the India Office, was afterwards given correctly by Sir J. Kaye, who had lately succeeded Mr. J. S. Mill as Political Secretary.

Majesty ceded all the Danish possessions in India to the East India Company.—(India Secret Letter No. 20 of 1845.)

On 28th January 1846 the Sikhs were defeated at the Battle of Aliwal by Sir Harry Smith. On 18th February the Sikhs were again worsted at the Battle of Sobraon by the British, with immense loss on both sides. On the 20th February Lahore was occupied by the British, which terminated the war, and a treaty of peace was signed on the 9th March 1846.—(Aitchison, vol. 2, p. 259. *See* also Punjab Papers, Parliamentary, 1847 to 1849, in the Secret Department.) 1846.

In 1847, the Earl of Dalhousie was appointed Governor General of India. This year the Nicobar Islands were abandoned by Denmark, a notice to that effect being given to the Government of India. They were offered to Great Britain for 50,000*l.*, but the offer was declined. The Danish authorities then made overtures to France and other European Powers, but without success, and, eventually, in 1868, the islands were made over free of charge to England, and placed under India. (Home Letter, dated 19th November (1078) 1868.) 1847.

By a Treaty concluded with Captain Mundy, of the "Iris," the Sultan of Borneo, on May 27th, 1847 (State Papers, vol. 35, pp. 16,17), ceded Labuan to the East India Company. By Article X. of this Treaty His Highness bound himself never to make any cession of territory to a Foreign Power without previously consulting England. It was in consequence of this Treaty that the Italian Government consulted us previous to taking possession of a site granted them, in 1872, by the Sultan of Borneo, for a convict station, in the north-west portion of the island.

In April 1848, Mr. Vans Agnew, Assistant to the British Resident at Lahore, and Lieutenant Anderson, were assassinated, at Mooltan, near the fort of that name, under the government of the Dewan Moolraj. It was at the time stated that the Dewan instigated the assassination, but competent authorities discredit the report. Mr. Currie (now Sir F. Currie, Bart.) succeeded Sir H. Lawrence in the post of Political Resident at Lahore, November 1847. On 18th May 1848, an engagement between a small British force, commanded by Colonel Cortlandt and Lieutenant (afterwards Sir Herbert) Edwardes, and the Dewan, ended in the total defeat of the latter. On the 22nd January 1849, Moolraj and his garrison surrendered the fort of Mooltan to a British force under General Whish, when the bodies of Mr. Vans Agnew and Lieutenant Anderson were discovered, and buried with all honours. On 21st February 1849, the Sikhs, under Shere Sing, were defeated at Goojerat by Lord Gough. 1848.

During this year Sattara was annexed to the British Government. (For Dissent and Minutes by members of the Court of Directors, and explanations of the adoption, &c., *see* Parliamentary Paper 83, 27th February 1849; *see also* Parliamentary Papers 69 and 331 of 1851.)

On the 13th January 1849, the Sikhs were defeated at Chillianwalla, on 21st February at Goojerat, and, on 14th March 1849, the whole Sikh army surrendered, unconditionally, to the British. The Punjab was then annexed to the British possessions, and a Proclamation to that effect was issued by the Governor General on the 29th March.—(India Secret Letter, No. 13 of 1849.) 1849.

On the 29th of March 1849 a treaty, ratified on the 5th April of that year, was concluded with the Maharajah Dhuleep Sing, the reputed son of Runjeet Sing, by which a pension of not less than four, or more than five, lacs of rupees (40,000*l.* or 50,000*l.*) was assigned him for life, for the support of himself and his family, in return for the cession of the Kohinoor diamond, &c. and the whole of the Punjab in perpetuity (Aitchison, vol. 2, p. 269; India Secret Letters, 19 and 20 of 1849, and 20 of 1850.) In 1849, Dhuleep Sing's personal allowance was 12,000*l.*, and in 1856, 15,000*l.*; in 1859, when he attained his majority, 25,000*l.* In 1869, by Letter dated 8th October 1869, No. 1,252, the provision for his family after his death was raised to 15,000*l.* a year. The Government of India, in India Foreign Letter, dated May 20th (No. 86) 1870, objected to these augmentations of allowances having been made in England without consulting them on the subject. From para. 17 of Lord Dalhousie's Minute, dated 15th February 1856 (India Foreign Proceedings, 28th February (No. 27) 1856), it appears that his Lordship suggested that Dhuleep Sing should, on attaining his majority, have the income, 25,000*l.*, he now enjoys.

The Punjab, after annexation in 1849, was placed under a Board of Administration, consisting of three members, the three at the time of its being converted into a Chief Commissionership in 1853 (Bengal Political Letter, dated 19th February (No. 14) and India Political Despatch, 13th July (No. 28) 1853,) being Sir John (afterwards Lord) Lawrence, the first Lieutenant Governor, his brother Sir Henry Lawrence, and Sir Robert Montgomery. In 1859 (Collection 4 to India Political Despatch, dated August 3rd (No. 31) 1859,) Sir John Lawrence's designation was changed to Lieutenant Governor.—*See* Aitchison, vol. 2, p. 227, &c.; Thornton's Gazetteer, Parliamentary Papers, &c.; Collection to India Political Despatch, dated August 3rd (No. 24) 1849; Punjab Administration Reports, 1849, 1850, and 1850–51, and India Selection, No. 6, which give the constitution of the Board. *See* also the following papers in the Secret Department:—Punjab Papers (Parliamentary) 1847 to 1849; Cabinet Papers, Confidential, vol. 1; Punjab Papers, Confidential, 1846 to 1852. (Sir Robert Montgomery's Farewell Minute, together with a Memorandum on his career, are with Collection to India Political Despatch, dated April 7th (No. 7) 1865.

India Secret Letters, 33 and 38 of 1848, treat of Lieutenant Wyburd's supposed detention at Kokan. There has been a good deal of correspondence on this subject, in the Political Department, with Mr. William Furrell, a solicitor, Lieutenant Wyburd's brother-in-law. Lieutenant Wyburd's death was confirmed by India Secret Letters 33, 40, and 58 of 1854. In 1849, Administrators General were appointed in each Presidency in India (*see* Narrative under year 1800).

1850. On 2nd July 1850, Sir Charles Napier, in consequence of a censure from Lord Dalhousie (India Foreign Selection, No. 3, 1853), resigned his post of Commander-in-Chief in India. On 15th December he gave a farewell address to his troops, and arrived in England in the following March.

1851. In 1851 and 1852 (*see* Board of Control's Letters bound up in Political Department), a correspondence took place between the India House, the Board of Control, and the Foreign Office, as to the expediency of cancelling the privileges possessed by the Portuguese at Surat under the firman of 1714. Lord Granville, however, was of opinion that it was useless to broach the subject, unless an equivalent were offered to the Portuguese Government. The matter then remained in abeyance till 1872, when it was reopened by the Governments of Bombay and India, principally on the ground of the altered aspect of affairs caused by the opening of the Suez Canal, and the privilege was stopped, pending discussion. The Foreign Office, on writing to the Portuguese Government, received an indignant protest from them.—(*See* Home Correspondence previously referred to in this Memorandum under year 1714.)

In 1851 a misunderstanding arose with the Burmese, which eventuated in the second Burmese War (the first was in 1824).

In this year (1851) an official Agent was first appointed to the Administrators General of India, in lieu of their private Agent (*see* Narrative under year 1800).

1852. On 4th January 1852, in consequence of the treachery of the Viceroy of Rangoon, an engagement took place, in which 300 of the enemy were killed and the fortifications destroyed. On 5th April, Martaban was stormed, on the 14th April Rangoon, and on the 19th May, Bassein. Pegu, after changing hands two or three times, was, on the 20th December, finally annexed to the British dominions. (India Secret Correspondence, 29th December 1852.)

This year (1852) a Wahabee conspiracy was discovered at Patna, correspondence having been traced between persons in that city and the fanatics in Swat and Sittana.

On this, Lord Dalhousie recorded two Minutes, dated the 26th August and 7th September 1852, respectively. These are Enclosures to Bengal Public Letter, dated 4th March (No. 10) 1853, paras. 44 to 47, and Collection to India Political Despatch, dated 7th December (No. 47) 1853, para. 17, given in a Parliamentary Return (Commons) 17th April 1872, 161.

Bengal Selection 42 contains a full account of the Wahabee Sect, the trial of Elahi Buksh, &c. *See* also Bombay Selection 24, p. 428, and Collection 2 to Madras Political Despatch, dated 22nd August (No. 14) 1871. Papers respecting the Wahabees in the Persian Gulf, including a Memorandum by Colonel Lewis Pelly, are Collections 5 and 6 to Bombay Political Despatch, dated 16th October

(No. 31) 1865, and Collections 2 and 3 to India Political Despatch, dated 22nd February (No. 11) 1866. The later Wahabee Papers respecting the trials of Shahdadad Khan and Ameer Ali are in the Judicial Department.

In the spring of 1850, Lord Dalhousie ordered the commencement of the Hindostan and Thibet road (No. 6, India Selection, Public Works Department). It began from Kalka, 36 miles from Umballah, was intended to ascend to Simlah, and thence proceed through Thibet, for the purpose of opening trade with that country and South-Western China, projects which had been advocated as far back as 1774, when the Governor General, Mr. Warren Hastings, sent Mr. George Bogle on an expedition, followed by Lieutenant Turner in 1784, and by a Native in 1786, (*see* Despatch from Court of Directors, April 1786, and Letter to Mr. Saxe Bannister, from Statistical Department, January 31st, 1860). In consequence of the expense, the Government of India abandoned the road when within 70 miles of completion, and in spite of the Despatches in the Public Works and Political Departments urging its completion, they have persistently declined the task (*see* Enclosure to India Foreign Letter, dated 23rd January (No. 20) 1874).

In January 1853, a revolution occurred in Ava, and the King was defeated by his younger brother. 1853.

On 16th April 1853, the first Indian Railway was opened.

In 1854 the territories of the Rajah of Nagpore lapsed to the East India Company. 1854.

Jhansi lapsed this year, on failure of heirs (India Political Despatch, dated 2nd August (No. 34) 1854, paras. 1 to 3).

On the 14th June 1854 (Aitchison, vol. 7, p. 230), the Imaum of Muscat ceded the Kooria Mooria Islands to the Queen (*see* Political Despatch to Bombay, dated 9th December (No. 42) 1857). The Colonial Office leased them for five years to Mr. John Ord, who imported labourers from Aden to collect the guano. The Arabs were very threatening, and a sloop of war, the "Elphinstone," was sent there in December 1858. The labourers were scandalously treated, and the Government of Bombay insisted that Indian labourers should not go, unless a surgeon and medicines were sent, the ships were not overcrowded, and the men were properly fed.—(*See* Collection 1 to Political Despatch to Bombay, dated 30th October (No. 52) 1859, replying to a statement that out of a consignment of labourers from Aden, the mortality was at the rate of 85 per cent. per annum.) India Act 19 of 1856 enacts that wherever labourers are ill-treated, a notification in the "Calcutta Gazette" shall declare that emigration to such colony or place shall cease from a day to be specified in such notification.

In this year (1854) a Burmese embassy went to Calcutta, taking a Letter and presents to Lord Dalhousie. Next year (1855) a return mission, Envoy Major (afterwards Sir Arthur) Phayre, was despatched to Burmah.

By India Public (Educational) Despatch, dated 18th July 1854 (para. 84), the Bible was to be in the Library of Government Schools, and the Masters were at liberty to expound it to the pupils, provided they did so out of school hours.*

On 31st March 1855 a treaty was signed with Dost Mahomed of Cabul (Aitchison, vol. 2, p. 430). 1855.

On the death of Sevajee in 1855, without male heirs, direct or collateral, the titular dignity of Tanjore became extinct.

In this year, (1855), also, Mahomed Ghouse, Nawab of the Carnatic, died without issue, and as the treaty of 1801 (Aitchison, vol. 1, p. 248,) recognized no hereditary right, it being of a purely personal character with Azeem-ood-Dowlah, the titles, privileges, and immunities of the family were declared to be at an end.

In July 1855, Viscount Canning was appointed Governor General. He arrived at Calcutta on 29th February 1856, and was immediately sworn into office.

In February 1856 Oude was annexed to the British dominions. The King was invited to sign a treaty securing to him 120,000*l.* a year, and jurisdiction within the palace and grounds at Lucknow. This he refused to do, and retired to Calcutta, in June 1856. In October 1859 (Aitchison's Treaties, vol. 2, p. 75) the King accepted a provision of 120,000*l.* per annum and an estate at Garden Reach, in 1856.

* Nearly all papers relating to religious instruction in India will be found in the Public Department.

the suburbs of Calcutta, which Government purchased for him. On his death the title will cease absolutely, and the pension will be reduced. (*See* page 5 of Parliamentary Return (Commons), 14th July 1864, 82–I.

On the 28th February 1856 Lord Dalhousie recorded his celebrated Farewell Minute. This is given in India Selection (Home Department) 14, and as a Parliamentary Return, 1856 (Commons), No. 245.

1857. In 1857, Universities were established at Calcutta, Madras, and Bombay (*vide* India Acts 2, 27, and 22 of 1857 respectively).

In January 1857, Mr. E. O'Riley, Deputy Commissioner, Tounghoo, proceeded to Karennee, there slaughtered a bullock; and made a contract of friendship with the Chief. In 1868, Major E. B. Sladen, in the course of his Bhamo expedition, went through a similar ceremony with some Khakhyens.—(*See* pp. 80 to 85 of Appendix to Report of Bhamo Expedition, Parliamentary Return (Commons), 165 of 1871.

In March 1857 the Nawab Nazim of Bengal compromised, for 7,000*l.*, his action *versus* Mackenzie, Lyall, and Co.—(*Vide* Bengal Public (Political) Proceedings, 7th May (116—119) 1857.

At the commencement of the year 1857 rumours were afloat as to the disaffected condition of the Bengal Army.

A report was circulated among the Native troops that it was the intention of the English Government to Christianize India, that Hindooism was to be overthrown by force, and the Christian religion established. How far the rumour was actually believed, is not satisfactorily known. It was, at all events, made use of as an occasion for revolt. The cartridges served out to the men were pronounced unfit for use, being said to contain ingredients which would for ever destroy the *caste* of those who employed them. Beef and pork fat were declared to be mixed with them, the first of which was unclean to the Hindoos, and the last to the Mahomedans. On this point, see a foot note by Sir Herbert Edwardes at p. 80, vol. 1, of the "Life of Sir Henry Lawrence," by Mr. Herman Merivale, C.B., and himself.

The outbreak at Berhampore took place on the 26th February 1857, and on 31st March the 19th Regiment Bengal Native Infantry was ordered down from Berhampore to Barrackpore, and disbanded.

On the 8th May, 85 troopers of the 3rd Bengal Light Native Cavalry were sentenced to imprisonment and hard labour, at Meerut, for refusing to receive the cartridges. As they passed their comrades, while being marched off the parade, they flung their boots in their faces, and bitterly reviled them for not attempting a rescue. On the 10th May the Native troops broke out into open mutiny, shot their Officers, (Colonel Finnis, of the 11th Native Infantry, being the first victim,) broke open the jail, liberated their comrades, burned the cantonments, and marched off for Delhi, where they arrived on the 11th May, and were joined by the Native regiments, in spite of the heroic resistance of a few brave Englishmen, and took possession of the imperial city. On the 12th, the King of Delhi was proclaimed by the Mutineers, and on the following day, Europeans to the number of 50, who had concealed themselves at Delhi, were discovered and massacred in the presence of the King. On the 27th, General Anson, the Commander-in-Chief, died of cholera at Kurnaul, and was succeeded by Sir Henry Barnard. On the 30th the mutineers were defeated at the battle of Ghazee-ood-deen-Nuggur.

On the 5th June the mutiny at Cawnpore occurred. On the 6th, Nana Sahib, at the head of the mutineers returned to Cawnpore, and hoisted two standards, the Hindoo and Mussulman. The Europeans, under Sir Hugh Wheeler, defended themselves for several days, with great determination. On the 13th, the ladies and children who had taken refuge in the Fort of Jhansi were barbarously murdered (*vide* India Secret Proceedings, 31st July (No. 179) 1857, also p. 524 of bound-up Secret Letters, October 1857: India Mutiny Papers (printed), 1857, No. 4, p. 121; and "London Gazette," 17th July 1858, p. 3336; and "Times" of 11th August 1858, which give a list of the people massacred). On the 26th, the Europeans at Cawnpore became so reduced by casualties and so short of ammunition and provision as to be compelled to surrender to Nana Sahib, on his guarantee of safe escort. In defiance of his promise, he fired on them, sank their boats, and captured the women.

On the 4th July the death of Sir Henry Lawrence, "who tried to do his duty," took place at Lucknow, the result of fearful injuries caused by a shell exploding in the Residency during the bombardment by the mutineers, and on the 5th Sir Henry Barnard died of cholera. On the latter day, the garrison fought the Neemuch mutineers.

On the 7th July, 163 persons, principally ladies and children, belonging to General Wheeler's force, and 47 from Futtyghur, were seized by the mutineers and confined at Cawnpore, by order of Nana Sahib.

On 17th August, General Havelock's force entered Cawnpore. A spectacle of the horrible massacre which had been perpetrated by the fiend, Nana Sahib, presented itself. 88 Officers, 190 men of Her Majesty's 84th Foot, 70 ladies, 120 women and children of Her Majesty's 32nd Foot, and the whole European and Christian population of the place, including civilians, merchants, shopkeepers, engineers, pensioners and their families, numbers about 400, had fallen victims to his savagery.

On the 3rd September Lord Elgin left Calcutta for China; he arrived at Calcutta from China in the "Shannon" on the 14th August.

On 14th September the assault on Delhi was commenced by the English troops, who succeeded in driving the enemy before them, and effecting a lodgment in the city.

On 16th September the magazine was stormed. On 17th September the palace at Delhi was attacked and taken, and the King took flight in female disguise. On 18th September further successes were accomplished in Delhi, notwithstanding that the mutineers kept up a deadly fire from the house tops. On 19th September General Havelock, with 2,500 men, crossed the Ganges from Cawnpore, on their way to Lucknow. On 20th September, Delhi was finally taken, and the rebellious sepoys were utterly defeated. On 21st September, the King of Delhi and his chief wife surrendered, and their lives were spared. On 22nd September, two sons and a grandson of the King of Delhi were captured and shot. On 23rd September, General Nicholson died of his wounds, and two moveable columns were despatched from Delhi in pursuit of the enemy. On 25th September, the Residency at Lucknow was relieved by General Havelock, just as it was mined and ready to be blown up by the besiegers, General Neill being shot dead close by the Residency.

On 14th October, the troops of the Rajah of Kotah mutinied, and murdered Major Burton, the Political Agent, and his two sons.

On 9th November, Sir Colin Campbell (afterwards Lord Clyde) set foot in Oude, and on the 17th he was joined by Sir James Outram and Sir Henry Havelock.

On 25th November 1857, at Alumbagh, died Sir Henry Havelock; worn out with fatigue and anxiety, he sunk under an attack of dysentery.

On 28th December 1857, Lieutenant Willoughby Osborne, Political Agent in Rewah, who had so long maintained himself, single-handed, in the midst of a disaffected population, carried the city of Myhere by storm, and on the 3rd January succeeded in capturing the fort, and taking the rebel Chief, Mohund Sing, prisoner.

The trial of the King of Delhi, Punjab Selection (new series), No. 7, contains an alphabetical list of persons implicated in the mutinies. In the Record Department there are three volumes of printed mutiny papers, and there are also some, indexed, in the Secret Department. The Collections to India Political Despatch, dated 24th July (No. 57) 1860, include Lord Canning's Minutes, the nomination by Lord Stanley, on the 19th April 1859, of a Special Committee, viz., Sir Frederick Currie, Sir John (afterwards Lord) Lawrence, General Sir Robert Vivian, G.C.B., and Captain W. J. Eastwick, to report on claims to reward for services during the mutiny; Secretary, Mr. G. E. Cochrane, Assistant Secretary, Military Department, India Office. On the 20th March 1860, the Committee made their final report, based on which five K.C.B.'s were created ("London Gazette," 18th May 1860—Sir F. Halliday, Sir R. Hamilton, Major-General Sir J. H. Birch, C.B., Colonel Sir Peter Melvill, and Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Herbert Edwardes),—47 C.B.'s were created, and 150 letters of thanks were sent in the Queen's name. An alphabetical list of Officers is given, with a *précis* of their military services, and a copy of all the letters of thanks.

1858. On 2nd January 1858, the Right Reverend Daniel Wilson, Lord Bishop of Calcutta died, in the 80th year of his age.

On the 15th January 1858, the Andaman Islands were occupied by the Government of India as a penal settlement.—(India Public Letter, 27th May (No. 65) 1859, and Selection from Records of Government of India, Home Department, No. 25.)

On 18th February 1858, Lord Palmerston, by a majority of 318 to 173 votes, obtained leave to bring in a Bill for the abolition of the East India Company. Before, however, any progress was made with the measure, the Government of Lord Palmerston was defeated on the Conspiracy to Murder Bill, and resigned office.

On the 26th March, Mr. Disraeli, as the organ of the new Government in the House of Commons, was permitted to bring in a new Bill. It was no sooner introduced than it met with the strenuous opposition of Lord John (afterwards Earl) Russell, who considered it liable to many serious objections, and proposed the introduction of a series of Resolutions in Committee of the whole House on which a satisfactory measure could be founded. After a brief discussion, Mr. Disraeli acceded to this course of procedure, and undertook the task of preparing a series of Resolutions agreeably to the suggestion of Lord John Russell; and on the 30th April, a series was introduced accordingly. The Company presented a very able protest, the work of the Examiner of Indian Correspondence, the late Mr. John Stuart Mill, against the proposed measure.

On 10th May, the day on which Lord Ellenborough's *famous* Secret Despatch, dated 19th April 1858, was communicated to them, the Court of Directors recorded a Resolution expressive of their continued confidence in Lord Canning.—(*See* Parliamentary Returns, Commons, 110 of 1859; Lords, 6 of 1859.)

On the following day (11th May) Lord Ellenborough resigned office as President of the Board of Control, and was succeeded by Lord Stanley, who was appointed in the June following.

On the 24th June, the Government of India Bill (No. 3) was introduced by Lord Stanley, and read a second time. On the following day (the 25th), the House went into Committee upon the Bill; and on the 8th July, it was read a third time, and passed the House of Commons.

On the 9th July, the Bill was read a first time in the House of Lords. On the 15th, Lord Stanley's father, the late Earl of Derby, moved the second reading of the Bill, which was carried. On the following day, the House went into Committee, and on the 23rd July, the Bill passed.

On 27th July, the Bill was sent back to the House of Commons for the consideration of the Lords' Amendments. Colonel Sykes moved that the amendments be considered that day three months, which motion, however, he subsequently withdrew, and the amendments were generally adopted. The Bill was finally assented to on the 30th July, and received Her Majesty's sanction on the 2nd August 1858. This Act (21 & 22 Vict., Cap. 106), transferring the power from the hands of the East India Company to the Crown, took effect on the expiration of 30 days from the passing thereof, on 1st September 1858.

Thus closed the career of the renowned East India Company, which for nearly three centuries had occupied so conspicuous a place in the affairs of the world. In handing over their functions to Her Majesty's Government, it cannot fail to have been a source of satisfaction to the Administrators of India to reflect that they were deprived of power through no even alleged delinquency on their part. The time was come, it was considered, when a country so vast in extent, and so boundless in resources, should, like the other possessions of Her Majesty, be administered in her name and under her direct control. It is to be hoped that the change will not disappoint the expectations formed of it, but will prove advantageous alike to the people of India and of England.

By an Act, 36 Vict. 1873, entitled, "The East India Stock Dividend Redemption Act, 1873," regulations were laid down for the redemption or commutation of the dividend on the capital stock of the East India Company; for the transfer by the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt of the Security Fund of the Company at the Bank of England to the Secretary of State for India in Council; and for the dissolution of the Company. On the 30th April 1874, in

compliance with the provisions of Act 3 & 4 William IV., sec. 12, cap. 85, all proprietors who were not disposed to commute their India Stock for any stocks, funds, or securities the Secretary of State had power to dispose of, received, as the surrender value of their stock, 200*l.* sterling for every 100*l.* stock they held, in full acquittal of all claims. The applications for commutation were far in excess of what the Secretary of State could comply with. All stock on which the dividends had been unclaimed for the last ten years were assigned, with the lapsed dividend, to the Secretary of State in Council, and all unclaimed dividends for a less period were paid by the Company into an account opened at the Bank of England, styled the East India Stock Dividend Account; if they are claimed within ten years from the time the last dividend was paid, they will be made over, after compliance with certain restrictions, to the legal claimant, if not, they will, in common with other unclaimed dividends, be retained by the Secretary of State, and will form part of the revenues of India. Upon, or as soon as conveniently after, the 30th April 1874, all books and documents relating to the Company's stock were made over to the Secretary of State in Council, and on the 1st June 1874, the Secretary of State having then complied with all the provisions of the Act, the powers of the East India Company ceased, and the Company was dissolved. This Bill was brought before the House of Commons by Mr. M. E. Grant Duff, Under Secretary of State for India. The Company presented a petition against it, but it passed the third reading in the House of Commons, and on the 22nd April 1873 was agreed to by the Lords.

Since October 1859, the East India Company, represented by a chairman, five directors, a secretary, and a clerk, have been holding their Courts of Directors, General Courts of Proprietors, By-law Committees, &c., at their Offices for the time being, viz., 1, Moorgate Street, and afterwards, 11, Pancras Lane, E.C. Colonel W. H. Sykes, M.P., was the first Chairman, in 1859, and on his death, on 16th June 1872, aged 83, Mr. John Harvey Astell was appointed his successor; the other Directors have been Field Marshal Sir George Pollock, Bart., G.C.S.I., K.C.B., Professor Ouseley, Messrs. W. H. C. Plowden, Eric Smith, William Dent, and Lestock Reid. On the By-law Committee have been Messrs. A. Helps, J. C. Mason, John Jones, &c. Mr. Clifford Craufurd was Secretary up to his death on 7th December 1870, after which Major W. H. Sykes, a son of the then chairman, took the post. 800*l.* per annum were set apart by the Secretary of State for the Company's expenses, the Chairman received 150*l.* a year, the other Directors 100*l.* each, and the Secretary 120*l.*

(A laudatory notice of the East India Company will be found in a leader in the *Times* newspaper of the 8th April 1873.)

India Office,
~~12th December 1874.~~
April 1875.

INDEX.

A.

Abercrombie, Major-General Sir Robert, appointed Commander-in-Chief, p. 12.
Abolition of the East India Company, pp. 26, 27.
„ of Indian Navy, p. 18.
„ of Suttee, p. 18.
Accounts, printed, Revenue and Finance, p. 15.
Acheen, p. 5.
„ Sultan, p. 5.
„ Treaty, p. 5.
Acts of Parliament (and *see* "Bills"), pp. 7, 8, 26, 27.
„ „ English, previous to 1727, apply to India, p. 7.
Act 6 of Queen Anne, p. 7.
„ 9, George III., Cap. 24, p. 7.
„ 13 „ „ 16, p. 7.
„ 24 „ „ 25, p. 11.
„ 33 „ „ 52, Secs. 62, 63, p. 8.
„ 37 „ „ 142, Sec. 128, p. 12.
„ 39 & 40 „ „ 79, Sec. 21, p. 13.
„ 53 „ „ 155, Sec. 36, p. 13.
„ 55 „ „ 84, p. 13.
„ 2 George IV., p. 13.
„ 1 William IV., p. 13.
„ 3 & 4 „ Cap. 63, Sec. 24, p. 8.
„ „ „ „ 85, „ 12, p. 27.
„ „ „ „ „ „ 76, p, 8.
„ „ „ „ „ Secs. 112, 113, p. 19.
„ 21 & 22 Victoria, Cap. 106, p. 26.
„ 36 Victoria, p. 26.
„ India, 7 of 1849, p. 13.
„ „ 2 of 1850, p. 13.
„ „ 5 of 1851, p. 13.
„ „ 13 of 1851, p. 13.
„ „ 8 of 1855, p. 13.
„ „ „ „ Sec. 51, p. 9.
„ „ 19 of 1856, p. 23.
„ „ 26 of 1860, p. 13.
„ „ 24 of 1867, p. 13.
„ „ 17 of 1873, p, 8.
„ „ 2 of 1874, pp. 13, 14.
„ for the abolition of the East India Company, p. 26.
„ East India Stock Dividend Redemption and Commutation, p. 26.
„ The "Regulating Act," p. 8.
Action brought by the Nawab Nazim of Bengal *v.* Messrs. Mackenzie, Lyall, & Co., p. 24.
Aden: Exportation of Indian labourers from, p. 23.
Administration in India to Intestate and other Estates, pp. 13, 14, 17, 18.
Administrator-General's Department, India Office, pp. 9, 10, 13, 14, 17, 18, 22.
Administrators-General of India, pp. 9, 13, 17, 18.
„ „ appointed to each Presidency, p. 13.
„ „ their Commissions, pp. 13, 14.
„ „ audit of their accounts, p. 13.
„ „ insolvency of, pp. 13, 14.
„ „ Official Agent in England appointed, pp. 14, 22.
„ „ „ „ must be sole Agent, pp. 14, 22.
„ „ Rules for, p. 13.
„ „ Schedules of Accounts to be published, pp. 13, 14.
„ „ „ „ kept at India Office, p. 14.
Admiralty jurisdiction: East India Company's, p. 6.
„ The: East India Navy placed under, p. 18.
Adoptions: Mysore, p. 18.
„ Sattara, p. 21.
Advertisements in newspapers of schedules of accounts of Administrators-General of India, pp. 13, 14.
Affghanistan: Hostages, p. 20.
„ Monarchs, p. 19.
„ murder of Sir Alexander Burnes and Mr. Macnaghten, p. 19.
„ Treaty with, p. 23.
„ War, pp. 19, 20.
„ „ Sir John Kaye's book on, p. 20.

Africa, p. 5.
„ Company, p. 5.
„ Slave Trade, p. 5.
Agreements (and *see* "Treaties"), p. 5.
Ahmed Ali Khan, Nabob (Rohilla Chief), p. 12.
Ahmedabad, pp. 5, 15.
„ the farm of, p. 15.
Ahmednuggur, Fort: storming of, p. 15.
Aitchison, Mr. C. U., C.S.I.: his book of Treaties, Engagements, and Sunnuds, p, 5.
"Alceste," p. 16.
Ali Morad, Meer: of Khyrpoor, p. 20.
Aliwal, Battle of, p. 21.
Alphabetical list of Mutineers, 1857–58, p. 25.
„ of Officers who rendered good service in 1857–58, p. 25.
Alumbagh: death of General Sir Henry Havelock at, p. 25.
Alum Shah, p. 8.
Ambassadors, p. 5.
Ameer Ali (Wahabee): trial of, p. 23.
Amherst, Lord: embassy to China, p. 16.
„ appointed Governor General, p. 17.
„ retirement from post of, p. 18.
Ammunition, pp. 19, 24.
Andaman Islands: occupied as a penal settlement, p. 26.
Anderson, Lieutenant: murder of, p. 21.
Anglia: Trimbukjee, pp. 16, 17.
Angria Family, of Colaba, p. 20.
„ Ragojee, p. 20.
Annals of the East India Company, Bruce's, p. 7.
Anne, Queen, p. 7.
Annexations: of Arracan and Tenasserim, p. 18.
„ „ Bengal, pp. 8, 9.
„ „ Carnatic, the, p. 23.
„ „ Ceylon, p. 15.
„ „ Colaba, p. 20.
„ „ Coorg, p. 18.
„ „ Danish possessions in India, p. 21.
„ „ Jhansie, p. 23.
„ „ Labuan, p. 21.
„ „ Mysore, pp. 12, 13, 18, 19.
„ „ Nagpore, p. 23.
„ „ Oude, p. 23.
„ „ Patna, p. 7.
„ „ Pegu, p. 22.
„ „ Poonah, p. 17.
„ „ Punjab, the, p. 21.
„ „ Sattara, p. 21.
„ „ Sind, p. 20.
(There is a separate head of "Lapses.")
Anson, General: Commander-in-Chief, death of, p. 24.
Appa Saheb, Rajah of Nagpore, p. 16.
Appeals to the Privy Council, p. 9.
Arbitrations, pp. 7, 15.
Arcot: capture of, by Hyder Ali, p. 11.
Argaum, Battle of, p. 15.
Armenian monks, pp. 9. 10.
„ subjects, pp. 9, 10.
Arms, pp. 8, 19.
Army, Native, Mutiny of, pp. 7, 15, 24, 25.
Arracan: ceded to the Company, p. 18.
Artillery, p. 8.
Arzumi, pp. 9, 10.
"Ascension," p. 5.
Ashtoor, Battle of, p. 17.
Asia, Central, p. 22.
Assaye, Battle of, p. 15.
Assessment, Revenue, pp. 11, 12.
Astell, Mr. John Harvey, p. 27.
Auckland, Lord: appointed Governor-General of India, p. 19.
Audit in India of accounts of Administrators-General of India, p. 13.
Austria, pp. 9, 10.
Ava (*see* "Burmah").
Azeem-ood-dowlah (Carnatic), p. 23.

B.

Baghdad: Major-General Chesney's Euphrates Expedition finished at, p. 19.
„ Residency, p. 20.
Bahar (*see* "Behar").
Baird, General Sir David, p. 12.

Bajee Rao, His Highness the Peishwa, pp. 16, 17.
„ „ „ death of, p. 17.
„ „ „ Nana Sahib, his adopted son, p. 17.
„ „ „ surrender to Sir John Malcolm, p. 17.
Bala Sahib, Rajah of Nagpore, murder of, p. 16.
Balambangan Island (Borneo), p. 10.
Bamo (*see* "Bhamo").
Banjar Massin (Borneo), pp. 6, 7.
„ „ „ revolt, p. 7.
Bank of England: Account of the Secretary of State for India in Council at, p. 26.
„ „ East India Stock Dividend Account at, p. 26.
Bankers: Messrs. W. Palmer & Co., Hyderabad, p. 16.
Bannister, Mr. Saxe (*see* "S.").
Baptismal Certificates, India, filed at India Office, p. 14.
„ „ fee for copy, p. 14.
Barnard, Sir Henry: appointed Commander-in-Chief, p. 14.
„ „ death of, from cholera, p. 25.
Baroda (and *see* "Guicowar"): conduct of Bajee Rao towards His Highness the Guicowar, pp. 15, 16.
Barrackpore, p. 24.
Basement of India Office, Memoranda in, pp. 5, 8, 13, 15, 16, 17.
Bassein: storming of, p. 22.
„ Treaty, p. 15.
Bath, Companions of the, p. 25.
„ Knights Commanders, p. 25.
Battles (and *see* "Wars"), pp. 7, 8, 9, 10, 15, 16, 17, 19, 20, 21, 24.
Bednore (or Nuggur), siege of, p. 11.
Beef fat, alleged to be mixed with the cartridges supplied to the Native Army, p. 24.
Behar ceded to the Company, p. 8.
Benares: Coorg Family at, p. 18.
„ Pensioners at, p, 18.
Bengal: Administrator-General appointed, p. 23.
„ Army: disaffection in, p. 24.
„ „ Mutiny of, p. 24.
„ „ „ Lord Canning's Minutes on, p. 25.
„ Baptismal and other certificates, wills, &c., p. 14.
„ Bay of, p. 18.
„ ceded to the Company, pp. 8, 9.
„ First Despatch from, p. 5.
„ Native Infantry, 11th: Mutiny and disbandment of, p. 24.
„ „ „ 19th: „ „ p. 24.
„ „ Cavalry, 3rd Light: mutiny of, p. 24.
„ Political Proceedings or Consultations, pp. 14, 24.
„ Presidency: Government of, p. 9.
„ Selections from Records of Government, p. 22.
„ His Highness the Nawab Nazim, or Subadar of, p. 8.
„ „ „ „ „ Committee to examine and report on Nizamut Accounts, p. 14.
„ „ „ „ „ Compromises his action *v.* Mackenzie, Lyall, & Co., p. 24.
„ „ „ „ „ Green Book published in 1870, p. 14.
„ „ „ „ „ Nizamut expenses, p. 8.
„ „ „ „ „ personal allowance, p. 8.
„ „ „ „ „ reductions of stipend, pp. 8, 19.
Bentinck, Lord William, appointed Governor General, p. 18.
„ „ suspends Maharajah of Mysore, p. 18.
Berhampore, mutiny at, p. 18.
Besançon, p. 17.
Bhamo Expedition: Major E. B. Sladen's, p. 24.
„ trade or caravan route between India and China, *viâ* Burmah, p. 24.
Bhurtpore: Rajah, pp. 15, 18.
„ siege of, raised, p. 15.
„ „ p. 18.
Bible, the: to be in the Library of Government Schools in India, and may be expounded to the scholars by the Masters, out of school hours, p. 23.
Bill (and *see* "Acts of Parliament") for regulating affairs of the East India Company, p. 8.
„ for the abolition of the East India Company, pp. 26, 27.
„ „ „ „ „ in Committee on, p. 26.
„ „ „ „ „ debate, p. 26.
„ „ „ „ „ Lords' amendments, p. 26.
„ „ „ „ „ passed both Houses, pp. 26, 27.
„ Conspiracy to murder, p. 26.
Birch, Major-General Sir J. H., K.C.B., p. 25.
Bithoor, Nana Sahib of, pp. 17, 24, 25.
„ „ „ the Cawnpore massacre, pp. 17, 25.
Black Hole, the, Calcutta, p. 7.
Blair, Port: the Indian convict station, p. 26.
Board of Administration, Punjab, p. 22.
„ of Control, established, p. 11.
„ „ correspondence in Political Department, India Office, p. 22.
„ „ Presidents, pp. 14, 26, 27.
„ „ pp. 18, 22.

Board of Control, Memoranda in basement of India Office, pp. 5, 8, 13, 15, 16, 20.
Bogle, Mr. George; his mission to Thibet, p. 23.
Bombay, p. 9.
„ Administrators-General appointed, pp. 13, 14, 22.
„ Baptismal and other Certificates, Wills, &c., p. 14.
„ ceded to the Company, p. 5.
„ Chief Justice, p. 9.
„ Commander-in-Chief, p. 5.
„ Commandant, p. 6.
„ Court of Appeal, p. 9.
„ created a separate Government, p. 6.
„ Deputy Governor, p. 6.
„ Governor, pp. 5, 6, 18.
„ Government, pp. 22, 23.
„ „ to obey the Orders of the Government of India, p. 9.
„ „ Gazette, pp. 9, 20.
„ High Court, p. 9.
„ Insurrection, p. 6.
„ Marine termed the "Indian Navy," p. 18.
„ Members of Council, p. 6.
„ Presidency, p. 11.
„ Selections from Records, p. 17.
„ Sudder Court, p. 9.
„ Supreme Court, pp. 9, 10.
„ University established, p. 24.
„ village settlement, p. 11.
Bonnet Family, French, alleged claim on Government of India, pp. 17, 18.
„ „ English, „ „ „ p. 18.
„ Jane, p. 18.
„ Jean Claude François, p. 17.
Books and documents of the East India Company to be transferred to the Secretary of State, on the abolition of the Company, p. 27.
„ pp. 5, 6, 7, 8, 12, 14, 15, 16, 19, 20, 22, 23, 24.
Borneo: Company's Settlements in, pp. 6, 7, 10, 12, 21.
„ convicts and convict station, Indian, in, p. 10.
„ „ „ „ Italian, in, 10, 21.
„ insurrection in, p. 7.
„ Keppel's expedition to, p. 12.
„ treaty with, p. 6.
„ „ ceding Labuan to the Company, and agreeing to make no cessions of territory to other Powers without consulting England, p. 21.
Bower, Mrs. (daughter of Sir William Nott): pension to, p. 20.
Bribes (presents) from Native Princes and Chiefs: Company's servants not to receive, p. 8.
Brigg's, "The Nizam," p. 16.
Brownrigg, Sir Robert, p. 15.
"Bruce's Annals of the East India Company," p. 7.
Brundrett, Messrs, p. 14.
Buckingham, Mr. James Silk, p. 13.
Bullocks slaughtered by Mr. E. O'Riley and Major E. B. Sladen, p. 24.
Bundelcund: administrative changes, p. 20.
Burhampore (*see* "Berhampore").
Burial certificates in India: copies at India Office, p. 14.
Burke, Mr. Edmund: his impeachment of Warren Hastings, p. 11.
Burmah and British Burmah, pp. 17, 24.
„ King of, pp. 12, 23, 24.
„ Missions to and from, pp. 12, 23.
„ revolutions in, p. 23.
„ Royal family, p. 23.
„ trade with, pp. 12, 24.
„ Treaties with, pp. 12, 18.
„ first war with, p. 17.
„ second war with, p. 22.
Burnes, Sir Alexander: murder of, p. 19.
Burton, Major, Political Agent, Kotah: murder of, and of his two sons, p. 25.
Bussorah, p. 9.
„ Political Resident, p. 9.
„ siege of, by the Persians, p. 9.
Buxar, battle of, pp. 7, 8.
By-laws, p. 7.
„ Committee, p. 27.

C.

Cabinet papers, (confidential), p. 22.
Cabul (and *see* "Affghanistan") Expedition, p. 19.
„ evacuated by the British, p. 19.
„ hostages and prisoners released, p. 20.
„ massacre of British troops in the Khyber Pass; p. 19.
„ re-entered by the British, pp. 19, 20.
„ Treaty with Dost Mahomed of, p. 23.

Calcutta, pp. 7, 9, 10, 20, 23.
„ Bishop of, p. 25.
„ Blackhole, p. 7.
„ Burmese Embassy to, p. 23.
„ Garden Reach, pp. 23, 24.
„ Government Gazette, pp. 9, 13, 23.
„ High Court, p. 13.
„ „ „ Ecclesiastical Registrar, p. 13
„ „ „ Chief Justice, p. 13.
„ „ „ Registrar, p. 14.
„ Journal, p. 13.
„ Lord Elgin left for China, p. 25.
„ police of: measures for improving the, p. 12.
„ suburbs of, pp. 15, 23, 24.
„ Supreme Court at, established, p. 8.
„ University established, p. 24.
Cambay, factory at, p. 5.
Campbell, Sir Colin (afterwards Lord Clyde), p. 25.
Canal, Suez, p. 22.
Canara, p. 11.
Canning, Right Honourable George, nominated Governor General of India, p. 17.
„ Viscount, appointed Governor General of India, p. 23.
„ „ Minutes on the Sepoy Mutiny, p. 25.
„ „ censured by Lord Ellenborough, p. 26.
„ „ vote of confidence in, from Court of Directors, p. 26.
Cannon, p. 8.
Caravan trade route, Bhamo, p. 24.
Carnatic, p. 11.
„ lapse of, to the Company, p. 23.
„ Nawab of: treaty with, pp. 11, 23.
„ „ „ Azeem-ood-Dowlah, p. 23.
Cartridges, the greased, p. 24.
Caste: rumour that the caste of the Hindoos and Mahomedans was to be destroyed by force, in order to advance Christianity in India, p. 24.
Castlereagh, Lord (afterwards Lord Londonderry): President of the Board of Control, p. 14.
„ „ death of, p. 17.
Catchpoole, President, p. 7.
Cattle slaughtered, p. 24.
Caubul (*see* "Cabul").
Cawnpore, Sir H. Havelock's march to Lucknow from, p. 25.
„ massacre, p. 25.
„ mutiny, p 24.
„ surrender, p 24.
„ retaken, p. 25.
Censure of Lord Dalhousie on Sir Charles Napier, p. 22.
„ „ Ellenborough on Lord Canning, p. 26.
Central Asia, p. 22.
„ India, p. 16.
„ Provinces, p. 16.
Certificates, baptismal, marriage, and burial, filed at India Office, and indexed, p. 14.
„ of burial, pp. 14, 18.
Cessions of territory to the Company (*see* "Grants").
„ „ „ not to be made by Borneo without consulting Government, p. 21.
„ „ by the Company, pp. 16, 17.
„ „ to the Crown, p. 23.
Ceylon, p, 17.
„ annexed, p. 15,
„ Governor of p. 15.
„ King deposed on account of his cruelty, p. 15.
„ minor Chiefs: Treaty with, p. 15.
„ Sir Emerson Tennent's History of, p. 15.
„ taken from the Dutch, p. 12.
Charles I., King, p. 5.
„ II., King, pp. 5, 18.
„ „ his Queen Catherine of Portugal, p. 5.
Charters, pp. 5, 6, 7, 8, 15, 18.
„ printed collection of, pp. 5, 7.
"Charter of Union," p. 7.
Chesney, Major-General: the Euphrates Expedition, p. 19,
Children massacred by Nana Sahib at Cawnpoor, pp. 17, 25.
Chillianwalla, battle of, p. 21.
China: Diplomatic Service: India pays one third of the cost, p. 19.
„ Emperor of: Letter to Prince Regent of England, p. 16.
„ Lord Elgin left Calcutta for, p. 25.
„ „ Amherst's Embassy to, p. 16,
„ „ Macartney's „ p. 12.
„ Opium for, p. 17.
„ Projects for trade with, pp. 7, 16.
„ „ „ *viâ* Burmah, p. 24.
„ „ „ *viâ* Thibet, p. 23.
„ relations of the East India Company with, p. 16.
„ trade „ „ „ p. 15.

Cholera: death of Sir H. Barnard from, p. 24.
Christianity in India; the Bible to be in Government School Libraries, and may be expounded to the scholars out of school hours, p. 23.
„ „ Native troops under the impression that caste was to be destroyed in order to advance Christianity, p. 24.
Circars, Northern, p. 8.
Cis-Sutlej States, p. 1.
Civil and Criminal Courts established in India, p. 12.
Clark, Mr. Francis, p. 14.
Clive, Colonel (afterwards Lord Clive and Earl Powis), pp. 7, 12.
Clyde, Lord, p. 25.
Cochrane, Mr. G. E., p. 25.
Coins and coinage, p. 13.
Coja Cazar Gregorio, pp. 9, 10, 18.
Colaba, Angria Family of, p. 20.
„ annexed, p. 20.
Colombo, siege of, p. 12.
Colonial Office: transfer of the Straits Settlements to, p. 17.
„ „ transmission to, of Rules in force in India, as to acceptance of presents from Natives by servants of Government, p. 8.
Colours: Hindoo and Mahomedan, hoisted by Mutineers at Cawnpore, p. 24.
Commander-in-Chief, pp. 12, 15, 18, 20, 22, 24, 25.
„ and Governor-General: offices united in one person, pp. 15, 18.
„ Bombay, p. 5.
„ deaths from cholera, pp. 24, 25.
Commercial speculations: Company's servants not to embark in, p. 8.
Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt, p. 26.
Commissions drawn by Administrators-General in India, pp. 13, 14.
Committee: By-Law, p. 27.
„ Secret, p. 5.
„ Special, to determine on rewards for services during the 1857–58 Mutiny, p. 25.
„ to examine and report on the Nizamut Accounts, p. 14.
„ Special, of House of Commons, pp. 13, 26.
Commons, House of, pp. 19, 26, 27.
„ „ Special Committees, pp. 13, 26.
Commutation or redemption of East India Stock on the abolition of the Company, p. 26.
Company's rivals, pp. 5, 6.
Compromise of the Nawab Nazim's action *v.* Mackenzie, Lyall, & Co. p. 24.
Concession from Court of Directors to Messrs. W. Palmer & Co., Bankers at Hyderabad, p. 16.
Condore, Pulo (*see* "P").
Conolly, Mr. H. V., murder of, p. 19.
Conspiracies (*see* "Mutinies").
„ „ to Murder Bill, p. 26.
Constable of the Tower of London, p. 20.
Constantinople, p. 9.
Consultations (Bengal), p. 24.
Contracts of friendship with Karens and Khakhyens, p. 24.
„ not to be undertaken by Company's servants, p. 7.
Control, Board of: established, p. 11.
Convent of St. Lazare at Venice, pp. 9, 10.
Conventions (*see* "Treaties").
Convicts and Convict Stations: Indian, pp. 10, 26.
„ „ Italian, pp. 10, 21.
Coolies: ill-treatment of, p. 23.
Coorg: annexation of, p. 18.
„ Rajah deposed and pensioned, p. 18.
„ „ death of, p. 18.
„ Royal Family of, p. 18.
Coote, Sir Eyre, p. 11.
Cornwallis, Marquis of: appointed Commander-in-Chief, p. 15.
„ „ „ Governor-General, p. 11.
„ „ re-appointed „ „ p. 15.
„ „ resigned, p. 12.
„ „ his permanent Revenue Settlement, p. 11.
„ „ death of, p. 15.
Cortland, Colonel, p. 21.
Corygaum, battle of, p. 16.
Court of Directors of East India Company: pp. 7, 8, 9, 20, 27.
„ „ „ Dissents, p. 21.
„ „ „ expressing confidence in Lord Canning, after Lord Ellenborough's censure on him, p. 26.
„ „ „ Minutes, pp. 20, 21.
„ „ „ Resolutions, pp. 6, 20, 21.
Court of Managers, p. 6.
„ Proprietors, pp. 7, 8, 9, 27.
Courten, Sir William, p. 5.
Courten's Association, p. 5.
Courtenay Estate, p. 18.
Courts: Civil and Criminal, in India: established, p. 12.
„ Law, p. 8, 9, 10.
Craufurd, Mr. Clifford, p. 27.
„ „ death of, p. 27.

Criminal Courts established in India, p. 12.
Cromwell, Oliver (the Protector), p. 5.
Crown, East India Company's power transferred to the, pp. 26, 27.
Cruelty: deposal of Native Princes and Chiefs for, pp. 15, 18.
Currency, p. 13.
Currie, Sir Frederic, Bart., pp. 21, 25.
Customs-duties, Portuguese, at Surat, p. 7.

D.

Dacca, p. 9.
Dalhousie, Earl of: appointed Governor-General, p. 21.
" " his censure on Sir Charles Napier, p. 22.
" " Minute on Dhuleep Sing's allowance, p. 21.
" " " " Wahabee conspiracy at Patna, p. 22.
" " his celebrated Farewell Minute, p. 24.
" " project of the Hindostan and Thibet Road, p. 23.
De Rosaz, Chevalier, p. 10.
Deaths in India: Certificates of, at India Office, p. 14.
Debt of the East India Company, p. 8.
" of Native States, p. 16.
" National: Commissioners for the Reduction of, p. 21.
Deccan, the: Captain Staunton's march to Poonah from, p. 16.
Defalcations of Administrators-General in India, pp. 13, 14.
Delhi: assault on, by the English, p. 25.
" capture of, p. 25.
" columns sent from, in pursuit of the Mutineers, p. 25.
" King or Emperor of: cedes Bengal to the Company, pp. 8, 9.
" " " death of the King's sons and a grandson, p. 25.
" " " flight of, p. 25.
" " " surrender of, and his chief wife, p. 25.
" " " death of, p. 25.
" massacre of Europeans at, p. 24.
" palace, p. 25.
" Sepoy Mutiny at, p. 24.
Denmark: Danish East India Company: permitted to import opium and saltpetre, p. 14.
" " " permission withdrawn, p. 15.
" makes over Nicobar Islands to England, p. 21.
" offers Nicobar Islands to France and other European Powers, p. 21.
" Treaty with, ceding all Danish possessions in India to East India Company, pp. 20, 21.
" " none as to opium and saltpetre, p. 15.
" war with, p. 15.
" " Danish ships and property captured during war, restored, p. 15.
Dent, Mr. William, p. 27.
Deposals of Native Princes for cruelty, &c., pp. 15, 18.
Derby, the late Earl of, p. 26.
Designation of the East India Company, pp. 5, 6.
Despatches, first: from Bengal and Madras, p. 5.
Dewan, p. 15.
" Moolraj, p. 21.
Dhuleep Sing, Maharajah, p. 21.
" " the Kohinoor Diamond, p. 21.
" " provision for, p, 21.
" " " his family, p. 21.
" " Treaty with, p. 21.
Diamond, the Kohinoor, p. 21.
Diplomatic Service in China: India pays one third of cost, p. 19.
Directors, Court of, of East India Company (see "C" and "E").
Disraeli, Right Hon. Benjamin, p. 26.
Dissents of Court of Directors, p. 21.
Dissolution of the East India Company, pp. 26, 27.
Dividends on East India Stock, which had lapsed at the date of the abolition of the Company, to form part of the revenues of India, p. 27.
" " " limitation on rate of, p. 8.
" " " redemption or commutation of, pp. 26, 27.
" " " unclaimed for ten years, p. 27.
Doctors must be with Coolie ships, p. 23.
Documents and Books relating to the East India Company transferred to the Secretary of State, on the abolition of the Company, p. 27.
Doorjun Sal, Rajah of Bhurtpore, p. 18.
Dost Mahomed, of Cabul, p. 19.
" " Treaty with, p. 23.
"Dragon," p. 5.
Duff, Mr. M. E. Grant, M.P., p. 27.
Duleep Sing (*see* "Dhuleep Sing").
Dutch, the: cession of Java to, p. 16.
" " Ceylon wrested from, p. 12.
" " exchanges of territory with, p. 17.

Dutch, the : expelled from Java, p. 15.
" " in India, Straits Settlements, and Ceylon, on footing of "most favoured nation," p. 17.
" " proceedings and encroachments in Eastern Seas, p. 17.
" " St. Helena abandoned by, p. 5.
" " their formula of administration in India, p. 6.
" " Treaties with, p. 16.
Duties, Portuguese, at Surat, p. 7.
Dysentery : death of General Sir Henry Havelock from, p. 25.

E.

East India Company formed, p. 5.
" " Admiralty Jurisdiction, p. 6.
" " Bill for regulating affairs of, pp. 8, 9.
" " " abolition of, pp. 26, 27.
" " Board of Control established, p. 11.
" " books and papers transferred to the Secretary of State, on abolition of, p. 27.
" " Borneo, relations with, pp. 6, 7, 10.
" " Bruce's Annals of, pp. 6, 7.
" " By-laws, p. 7.
" " " Committee, p. 27.
" " cessions of territory to the Crown, pp. 19, 23.
" " Chairman, p. 27.
" " Charters, pp. 5, 6, 7, 8, 15.
" " China, Diplomatic Service in : India pays one third of cost, p. 19.
" " " relations with, p. 16.
" " " trade, p. 15.
" " Civil and Criminal Courts established, p. 12.
" " Concession to Messrs. W. Palmer & Co., Hyderabad bankers, p. 16.
" " Court of Directors, pp. 7, 8, 20, 27.
" " " Proprietors, pp. 7, 8, 27.
" " Danish, pp. 14, 15.
" " " possessions in India made over to, pp. 20, 21.
" " Debts, p. 8.
" " Despatches from India, first, p. 5.
" " Euphrates Expedition, grant to, p. 19.
" " first Fleet, p. 5.
" " special good service grants, pp. 16, 20.
" " indenture, tripartite, p. 7.
" " lapses of territory to, pp. 16, 18, 19, 20.
" " laudatory notice of, in the "Times," p. 27.
" " Memorandum on their relations with Java, p. 15.
" " Parliamentary inquiry into affairs of, p. 8.
" " policy, pp. 6, 17.
" " power transferred to the Crown, pp. 26, 27.
" " protests against abolition, pp. 26, 27.
" " first railway in India, p. 23.
" " relations with Borneo, 6, 7, 10.
" " " China, p. 16.
" " rival bodies, pp. 5, 6, 7,
" " salaries and allowances from Secretary of State since 1859, p. 27.
" " first Secret Committee, p. 6.
" " Secretary, p. 27,
" " Security Fund, p. 26.
" " servants not to embark in commercial speculations, p. 8.
" " " " hold lands in India nor to undertake contracts, p, 7.
" " " " receive bribes from Native Princes and Chiefs of India, p. 8.
" " " who lend money to Native Princes or Chiefs without leave of Court, Governor General, or Governor of a Presidency, liable to prosecution for misdemeanour, p. 12.
" " first settlement in India, p. 5.
" " title or designation, p. 5.
" " trade monopoly, pp. 5, 6, 15.
" " " " abolished, pp. 15, 18.
" " " with China, p. 15.
" " first Treaty, p. 5.
East India merchants, p. 17.
" papers in State Paper Office, p. 5.
" Stock, pp. 5, 6, 7, 8, 9.
" " Dividend Account at the Bank of England, p. 27.
" " " limitation of, by Act of Parliament, p. 8.
" " on the abolition of the Company, all proprietors who did not wish to take other Government Stock or securities in exchange, received 200*l.* for every 100*l.* India Stock they held, p. 27.
" " qualification for a Director, p. 9.
" " Redemption Act, 1873, p. 26.
" " " or commutation of, on abolition of the Company, pp. 26, 27.
East Indies: United Company of Merchants trading to the, p. 6.

Eastern Seas, Dutch proceedings in, p. 17.
„ „ piracy in, p. 17.
Eastwick, Captain W. J., p. 25.
Ecclesiastical Registrars of Presidency High Courts, pp. 13, 14.
„ „ defalcations of, pp. 13, 14.
Education Department, p. 23.
„ of the Mysore (Mahomedan) Family, p. 15.
„ Native: the Bible to be in Government schools and libraries, and may be expounded to scholars after school hours, p. 23.
Edwardes, Lieutenant (afterwards Lieutenant-Colonel Sir) Herbert, K.C.B., pp. 21, 25.
„ „ „ „ „ „ „ his Life of Sir Henry Lawrence, p. 24.
Elahi Buksh (Wahabee), trial of, p. 22.
Elephants, p. 7.
Elgin, Lord, left Calcutta for China, p. 25.
Elizabeth, Queen, p. 5.
Ellenborough, Lord, p. 20.
„ „ appointed Governor-General, p. 19.
„ „ his Secret Despatch consuring Lord Canning, p. 26.
„ „ removal of Political Officers in Bundelcund and Saugor, p. 20.
„ „ resignation of post of President of the Board of Control, p. 26.
Elphinstone, Hon. Monstuart, pp. 9, 16, 17, 58.
„ „ „ retired from being Governor of Bombay, p. 18.
"Elphinstone," ship, p. 23.
Embassies (*see* "Missions").
Emigrants, Indian, ill treatment of, p. 23.
"English Company," the, pp. 6, 7.
Envoys, Embassies, &c. (*see* "Missions").
Estates, unclaimed for 15 years, transferred to credit of Government, pp. 9, 13.
Euphrates Expedition, the, p. 19.
„ and Tigris: British vessels on, p. 19.
„ „ „ Company, p. 19.
European fugitives from Futtyghur during the 1857–58 Mutiny, p. 25.
„ Powers, exchanges of territory with, p. 17.
„ „ Nicobar Islands offered to, by Denmark, p. 21.
„ women and children massacred by Nana Sahib at Cawnpore, pp. 17, 25.
Europeans forbidden to enter the service of many Native States, p. 5.
„ would not prostrate themselves before a vacant throne, p. 16.
„ their pecuniary transactions with Native States: Company will not interfere in, p. 16.
Examiner of India Correspondence, East India House; his Protest against abolition of the East India Company, p. 26.
Exchanges of territory with European Powers, p. 17.
Expedition; Keppel's, to Borneo (Book), p, 12.
„ Major-General Chesney's Euphrates, p. 19.
„ „ E. B. Sladen's Bhamo, p. 24.
„ Cabul, p. 19.

F.

Factories, p. 5.
Fanatics at Malabar, p. 19.
„ at Swat and Sittana, p. 22.
Farewell Minute, Lord Dalhousie's, p. 24.
„ „ Sir R. Montgomery's, p. 22.
„ Address to the troops: Sir Charles Napier's, p. 22.
Farming the revenues of territory, p. 15.
Fees at India Office for copies of wills, certificates, &c., p. 14.
Ferozepore: battle of, p. 20.
Ferozeshah, „ p. 20.
Financial embarrassments of the East India Company, p. 8.
„ and Revenue printed Accounts, p. 15.
Finnis, Colonel, 11th Bengal Native Infantry, murder of, p. 24.
Firmans, pp. 5, 6, 7, 8, 19, 22.
Fitzgerald, Mrs. Margaret, p. 14.
Flags, Hindoo and Mahomedan, hoisted at Cawnpore by mutineers, p. 24.
Fleet: Company's, pp. 5, 7, 18.
„ Royal, p. 5.
Fontenis, p. 17.
Foreign Office, pp. 7, 8, 10, 18.
„ „ connexion with the Persian Mission, p. 19.
„ „ Memorandum from, p. 17.
„ „ Secretary of State for Foreign Affair, p. 17.
„ „ views as to Portuguese privileges at Surat, p. 22.
„ Powers cannot conclude treaties with many Native States in India without consent of Government, p. 5.
Fort Marlborough: baptismal and other certificates at, p. 14.
„ William, Settlement of, p. 7.
Fortifications, forts, &c., pp. 6, 15, 16, 22, 24, 25.
„ „ „ razed, pp. 20, 22.

France: French possessions in India, pp. 11, 15.
„ „ „ „ Convention prohibiting manufacture of salt in, p. 15.
„ „ power virtually annihilated, p. 11.
„ „ alleged claims to an Indian estate, p. 17.
„ „ lawyer, p. 10.
„ Nicobar Islands offered to, by Denmark, p. 21.
„ Salt, Opium, and Saltpetre Convention with, p. 15.
„ wars with, pp. 11, 12.
Franche Comté, p. 17.
Free-trade, p. 17.
Fugitives, European, from Futtyghur, during the 1857–58 Mutiny, p. 25.
Fund, Security: East India Company's, p. 26.
Funeral of Field Marshal Sir George Pollock in Westminster Abbey, p. 20.
„ Mr. Vans Agnew and Lieutenant Anderson, p. 21.
Furrell, Mr. William (a Solicitor), p. 22.
Futtyghur: European fugitives from, p. 25.
Fuzl, Syud, p. 19.
Fyz-oollah Khan, Rohilla Chief, p. 12.

G.

Ganges, the, crossed by General Sir H. Havelock, *en route* from Cawnpore to Lucknow, p. 25.
Garden Reach, suburb of Calcutta: estate of the Ex-King of Oude at, p. 23.
Gazee-ood-deen Nuggur (*see* "Ghazee-ood-deen Nuggur").
Gazette, Bombay Government, p. 20.
„ Calcutta „ pp. 9, 13, 23.
„ London, pp. 9, 13, 14, 24.
Gazetteer of India, Thornton's, p. 22.
Ghazee-ood-deen Nuggur: battle of, p. 24.
Gholam Mahomed Khan (Rohilla Chief), p. 12.
Goa, p. 5.
„ alleged prohibition of export of opium from, p. 17.
Godolphin, The Lord High Treasurer, p. 7.
Gogree, p. 5.
Gold, p. 5.
Good-service pensions, pp. 16, 20.
Goojerat: battle of, p. 21.
Gough, General Sir Hugh (afterwards Lord), pp. 20, 21, 22.
„ „ „ appointed Commander-in-Chief, p. 20.
Government Gazettes, pp. 9, 13, 14, 20, 23.
„ Loan, p. 9.
„ Schools in India: the Bible to be in the libraries of, and may be expounded out of school hours, p. 23.
Governor-General of India, pp. 8, 11, 12, 15, 17, 18, 19, 20, 23, 25.
„ „ „ Council appointed, p. 9.
„ „ „ and Commander-in-Chief: offices united in one person, p. 15.
„ of Bombay, pp. 5, 6, 18.
„ of Madras, pp. 6, 12, 18.
Grant Duff, Mr. M. E., M.P. (*see* "Duff").
Grants of territory to the Crown, pp. 19, 23.
„ „ „ Company, pp. 5, 8, 11, 12, 13, 18, 20, 21.
„ „ by the Company (*see* "Cessions").
„ special good service, pp. 16. 20.
Granville, Earl, p. 22.
Greased cartridges, the, p. 24.
Great Mogul, The, pp. 5, 6, 7.
Gregorio, Coja Cazar, pp. 10, 18.
„ Satoor, p. 10.
Guano, p. 23.
Guarantees, pp. 5, 12.
Guicowar (and *see* "Baroda"), His Highness the: conduct of Bajee Rao towards, pp. 15, 16.
Gujerat (*see* "Goojerat").
Gungadur Shastree: murder of, p. 16.

H.

Halliday, Sir Frederick, K.C.B., p. 25.
Hamilton, Sir Robert K.C.B., p. 25.
Hardinge, Sir Henry (afterwards Lord), appointed Governor-General, p. 20.
Harris, General, p. 12.
Hastings, Marquis of, appointed Governor-General, p. 15.
„ „ „ „ „ retirement of, p. 17.
„ Warren, pp. 11, 23.
„ „ his resignation of post of Governor-General, p. 11.
„ „ impeachment of, p. 11.
„ „ trial and acquittal, p. 11.
Havelock, General Sir Henry: entry into Cawnpore, p. 25.
„ „ „ death of, from dysentery, p, 25.
Hayes, Mr., p. 14.

Head-man of a village, pp. 11, 12.
„ „ „ his designation in different parts of India, p. 12.
"Hector," p. 5.
Helena, St., pp. 5, 14, 19.
Helps, Mr. A., p. 27.
High Court of Bombay, pp. 9, 14.
„ „ Calcutta, p. 14.
„ „ Madras, pp. 13, 14.
Hindoos: disaffection from British Government of, p. 24.
„ believe that their caste was to be destroyed, p. 24.
„ and Mahomedans: their colours hoisted by the mutineers at Cawnpore, p. 24.
Hindostan and Thibet Road, p. 23.
Hislop, General Sir Thomas, p. 16.
Hobart, Lord, Governor of Madras, p. 12.
Holkar, His Highness the Maharajah of Indore: war with, p. 16.
Holland: Ceylon wrested from, p. 12.
„ exchange of territory with, p. 17.
„ proceedings and encroachments in Eastern Seas, p. 17.
„ St. Helena abandoned by, p. 5.
„ their formula of administration in India, p. 6.
„ treaty with, p. 17.
Hornidge, Mr. Marmaduke, p. 14.
Hostages for the fulfilment of treaties, pp. 11, 12.
„ British, left in Affghanistan, p. 20.
House of Commons, p. 19.
„ Lords, p. 19.
Hyder Ali, p. 11.
Hyderabad (Central Provinces), and *see* Nizam, the, pp. 8, 12.
„ „ „ affairs of the Bankers, Messrs. W. Palmer & Co., p. 16.
„ Treaty, pp. 8, 11, 12.
„ (Sind), battle of, p. 20.

I.

Ilahi Buksh (*see* "Elahi").
Impeachment of Warren Hastings, p. 11.
Import duties, Portuguese, at Surat, p. 7.
Indenture, tripartite, p. 7.
Index to Board of Control Memoranda in Record Department, India Office, p. 15.
India Presidency (*see* "Bengal").
„ Board (*see* "Board of Control").
„ Civil and Criminal Courts in, established, p. 12.
„ Commander-in-Chief (*see* "C").
„ Dutch subjects in, on footing of most favoured nation, p. 17.
„ East India Company to pay rent to the Crown for territories in, p. 8.
„ right of the Crown to all lands acquired by the Company in, p. 8.
„ French possessions in, p. 11
„ Governors-General of, pp. 9, 11, 12, 14, 16.
„ Native Princes and Chiefs of (*See* "N").
„ Navy, pp. 5, 7.
„ „ abolished, p. 18.
„ Office Library, p. 19.
„ „ Memoranda in basement, pp. 5, 8.
„ railway, the first, p. 23.
„ Revenue and Finance printed Account, p. 15.
„ selection from Records of Government of, pp. 22, 24, 26.
„ Secretary of State for, the first, p. 25.
„ Thornton's Gazetteer of, p. 22.
„ Wills and certificates: copies at India Office, p. 14.
Indices in India Office to baptismal and other certificates, wills, &c., p. 14.
Indies, West, p. 5.
Indore (and *see* "Holkar"), p. 16.
Indus, the, p. 20.
Insolvency of Administrators-General of India, pp. 13, 14.
Instruments, p. 19.
Insurrections, (*see* "Mutinies").
"Interlopers," p. 6.
Intestate Estates in India, pp. 9, 13, 14.
"Iris," the, p. 21.
Islands, pp. 5, 6, 7, 10, 12, 14, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 26.
Italy, proposal of Italian Government for a Convict Station in Borneo, pp. 10, 21.
Ivory, p. 5.

J.

Jaffir Meer, of Surat, death of, p. 13.
Jageers, p. 12.
Jail at Meerut, broken open by mutineers, p. 24.
James I., King, p. 5.

James II., King, p. 18.
Java ceded by Treaty to the Dutch, p. 16.
„ Company's relations with: Memorandum on, p. 15.
„ the Dutch expelled from, p. 15.
Jehangeer (The Great Mogul), p. 5.
Jewels, p. 21.
Jhansi, fort of, p. 24.
„ lapse of, p. 23.
„ massacre, p. 24.
Jones, Mr. John, p. 27.
„ Sir William: death of, p. 12.
Judicial Department, pp. 19, 23.

K.

Kabul (*see* "C").
Kelat, p. 23.
Karen Chief Mr. E. O'Riley's contract of friendship with, p. 24.
„ country, p. 24.
Kaye, Sir John, K.C.S.I., his history of the Affghan war, p. 20.
„ „ „ Memoranda respecting loans to Natives from Europeans, p. 11.
Keigwin, Captain Richard, p. 6
Keppel's Expedition to Borneo (Book), p. 12.
Khakyens, Major E. B. Sladen's contract of friendship with, p. 25.
~~Khyber Pass, massacre of the British Army in the, p. 19.~~
Khyrpoor, Meer Ali Morad of, p. 20.
Kine-killing, p. 24.
Kistnah Bahadoor, Maharajah of Mysore, p. 12.
Knighthood, Order of the Bath, p. 25.
Kohinoor diamond, the, p. 21.
Kokan: Lieutenant Wyburd's supposed detention at, p. 22.
Kolaba (*see* "Colaba").
Kooria Mooria Islands ceded to the Queen by Denmark, p. 23.
Kotah Contingent, mutiny of, p. 25.
„ „ „ murder of Major Burton and his two sons, p. 25.
„ Political Agent, p. 25.
Kurnaul: cholera at, p. 24.
„ lapse, p. 18.

L.

Labourers, Indian: ill-treatment of, p. 23.
Labuan ceded to the Company, p. 21.
Lahore Family, p. 19.
„ Maharajah, p. 19.
„ „ death of, p. 19.
„ „ Political Resident, Assistant, &c., p. 21.
„ „ Treaty of peace, p. 21.
Lake, General Lord, p. 15.
Lancaster, Captain Jones, p. 5.
Land Tenure, pp. 11, 12.
Land-holding by Company's servants prohibited. p. 7.
Lapse (there is a separate heading of "Annexations") of the Carnatic to the Company, p. 23.
„ Colaba, p. 20.
„ Jhansi, p. 23.
„ Kurnaul, p. 18.
„ Loodhiana, p. 19.
„ Nagpore, p. 23.
„ of unclaimed East India Stock dividends to Government on the abolition of the Company, p. 27.
Law Courts, pp. 8, 9, 10, 24.
„ Officers in India, p. 10.
Lawyer, French, p. 10.
Lawrence, Sir Henry, pp. 21, 22.
„ „ death of, p. 25.
„ „ Life of, by Sir Herbert Edwardes and Mr. Herman Merivale, C.B., p. 24.
„ Sir John (afterwards Lord), pp. 22, 25.
Leader in the "Times" newspaper, laudatory of the East India Company, p. 27.
Legal Adviser to the Secretary of State for India in Council, p. 14.
Letter from Emperor of China to Prince Regent, p. 16.
Letters of Administration, p. 9.
„ of thanks from the Queen for mutiny services, p. 25.
„ Patent, p. 6.
„ to and from Native Princes and Chiefs, p. 23.
Liberty of the Press in India, abuses of, p. 13.
Library, India Office, p. 19.
List of persons involved in the 1857–58 Mutiny, p. 25.
„ of Officers who did good service in the 1857–58 Mutiny, p. 25.
Loans from Company's servants to Native Princes and Chiefs, except with consent of Court, Governor-General, or Governors of Presidencies, render lenders liable to prosecution for misdemeanor, p. 12.

p.
ant, alleged death, p. 22.
" " detention at Kokan, p. 22.
" his brother-in-law, Mr. Furrell, p. 22.

Y

York, His Royal Highness the Duke of, p. 5.

Z.

Zemindars, pp. 11, 12.
Zemindary Settlement, p. 11.

108350

London, p. 5.
„ Company, pp. 6, 7.
„ Gazette, pp. 9, 13, 14, 24.
„ Tower of: Constable of, p. 20.
Londonderry, Marquis of (Lord Castlereagh), p. 14.
„ „ „ his death, p. 17.
Loodhiana: lapsed, p. 19.
Lords, House of, pp. 26, 27.
Lord High Treasurer Godolphin, p. 7.
Lucknow bombarded by mutineers, p. 25.
„ captured by the English, p. 25.
„ defended „ „ p. 25.
„ Sir H. Havelock's march to, from Cawnpore, p. 25.
„ King of Oude's palace and grounds at, p. 23.
„ Residency, p. 25.
„ siege of, p. 25.
Lushington, Right Hon. S. R., appointed Governor of Madras, p. 18.
Lyall, Messrs. (*see* "Mackenzie, Lyall, & Co.").
Lynch, Mr. T. K., pp. 10, 19.

M.

Macartney, Lord: his embassy to China, p. 12.
Macassar soldiers, p. 7,
M'Caskill, General, p. 20.
Mackenzie, Lyall, & Co., Messrs: the Nawab Nazim's action against, p. 24.
Macnaghten, Sir William: murder of, p. 19.
Macpherson, Mr. William, p. 14.
Madagascar, King Elect of, p. 17.
„ p. 17.
Madras, p. 5.
„ Administrators-General of, pp. 13, 14, 22.
„ Army, p. 14.
„ baptismal and other certificates, wills, &c., at, p. 14.
„ first despatch from, p. 5.
„ Gazette, p. 9.
„ Government created, p. 6.
„ „ p. 7.
„ Governor of, pp. 12, 18.
„ „ to obey the Orders of the Supreme Government of India, p. 9.
„ Ecclesiastical Registrar, p. 13, 14.
„ High Court, p. 13.
„ Official Trustee, p. 14.
„ University established, p. 24.
Magistrates, Natives first allowed to be, p. 19.
Mahomed Ali, p. 12.
„ Ghouse, Nawab of the Carnatic: death of, p. 23.
Mahomedans: alleged attempt to destroy the caste of, p. 24.
„ and Hindoos: their colours hoisted by mutineers at Cawnpore, p. 24.
Mahratta Campaign, the, pp. 11, 14, 15.
Malabar, magistrate of, murdered, p. 19.
„ Moplah outrages in, p. 19.
Malacca ceded to England by the Dutch, p. 17.
Malavili, battle of, p. 12.
Malayan Peninsula: Dutch proceedings in the, p. 17.
Malcolm, Sir John: appointed Governor of Bombay, p. 18.
Malik, p. 12.
Managers, Court of, p. 6.
Marine, Bombay, p. 18.
„ Department, p. 18.
Marriage certificates, p. 14.
„ portion, p. 5.
Martaban: storming of, p. 22.
Mason, Mr. J. C., p. 27.
Massacre at Cawnpore, pp. 17, 25.
„ „ Delhi, p. 24.
„ „ Jhansi, p. 24.
„ „ the Khyber Pass, p. 19.
„ „ Vellore, p. 15.
Massin: Banjar (*see* "B").
Matthews, General, p. 11.
Mechitarist Order of St. Lazare at Venice, pp. 9, 10.
Medicines must be sent with coolie ships, p. 23.
Meeanee: battle of, p. 20.
Meer (in all cases see under next word, *e.g.*, Meer Jaffer, *see* "J").
Meerut, 3rd Bengal Light Native Cavalry sentenced to imprisonment and hard labour at, for insubordination, p. 24.
„ cantonment, p. 24.
„ Jail broken open by Sepoy mutineers, p. 24.
Mehidpore, battle of, p. 16.
Melvill, Colonel Sir Peter, K.C.B., p. 25.
Melville, Mr. J. R., p. 7.

Memoranda (and *see* "Minutes"), pp. 5, 6, 7, 8, 11, 13, 15, 16, 17, 19, 20, 21, 22.
„ in basement of India Office, pp. 5, 8, 13, 15, 16, 17, 20.
Memorandum by Colonel Lewis Pelly on Wahabees in the Persian Gulf, p. 22.
„ on Company's relations with Java, p. 15.
„ „ the Bonnet (French) family, p. 18.
Memorials, p. 10.
Merchant Adventurers, p. 5.
Merchants, East India, p. 17.
Merivale, Mr. Herman, C.B.: his life of Sir Henry Lawrence, p. 24.
Mhow, p. 17.
Mighardich, p. 9.
Military Department, India Office: Assistant Secretary, p. 25.
„ services of Officers during mutiny, précis of, p. 25.
„ tenures, p. 12.
Mill, Mr. John Stuart: his protest against the abolition of the East India Company, p. 26.
„ „ his memorandum respecting loans from Europeans to Natives, p. 11.
„ „ p. 20.
Minto, Lord: appointed Governor-General of India, p. 15.
Minutes: (*see* "Memoranda").
„ Court, (*see* "C").
„ by Lord Canning on the Sepoy Mutiny, p. 25.
„ „ Dalhousie, pp. 21, 22.
„ Farewell, by Lord Dalhousie, p. 24.
„ „ by Sir R. Montgomery, p. 22.
Miriam, p. 10.
Misappropriation of funds by Administrators-General of India, pp. 13, 14.
Misdemeanor: Company's servants giving loans to Native Princes and Chiefs, without leave, liable to prosecution for, p. 12.
Misrek, Rev. Isaia, p. 9.
Mission, Persian, p. 19.
Missions, Envoys, Embassies, and Expeditions, pp. 5, 12, 16, 19, 23.
Mocuddum, p. 12.
Mogul, The Great, pp. 5, 6, 8.
Mohund Sing, Chief of Myhere: capture of, p. 25.
Moira, Earl of (afterwards Marquis of Hastings): appointed Governor-General of India, p. 15.
Monopoly, Company's pp. 6, 18.
Montgomery, Sir Robert, p. 22.
„ „ his farewell Minute, p. 22.
„ „ Memorandum on his career, p. 22.
Moobaruk-ul-Dowlah, Nawab Nazim of Bengal: Treaty with, p. 8
Moolraj, Chief of, Mooltan, p. 21.
Mooltan: battle of, p. 21.
„ fort of, p. 21.
„ war, p. 21.
Moore, Mr. Henry, Political Resident at Bussorah, p. 9.
Moorshedabad, pp. 7, 8.
„ His Highness the Nawab Nazim or Subadar of p. 8.
„ „ „ „ „ Committee to examine and report on Nizamut accounts, p. 14.
„ „ „ „ „ compromise of his action *v.* Mackenzie, Lyall, & Co., p. 24.
„ „ „ „ „ Green Book published in 1870, p. 14.
„ „ „ „ „ Nizamut expenses, p. 8.
„ „ „ „ „ personal allowance, p. 8.
„ „ „ „ „ reduction of stipend, pp. 8, 19.
Moplah outrages in Malabar, p. 19.
Mornington, Earl of (afterwards Marquis Wellesley): appointed Governor-General of India, p. 12.
Most favoured nation clause in Treaties, p. 17.
Moultan (*see* Mooltan).
Munden, Captain (afterwards Sir William), p. 5.
Mundy, Captain, p. 21.
Munkaseer, Sedasheo, p. 15.
Munro, Sir Thomas, p. 11.
„ „ his mode of revenue settlement, p. 51.
„ „ death of, p. 18.
Murders, pp, 7, 10, 12, 16, 17, 19, 21, 24, 25.
Muscat: the Imaum cedes Kooria Mooria Islands, p. 23.
Mutilation of Parliamentary Returns, p. 20.
Mutineers, 1857–58, Alphabetical List of, p. 25.
Mutiny at Vellore attributed to a change in the Sepoys' turbans, p. 15.
Mutinies, rebellions, conspiracies, revolts, insurrections, &c., p. 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 15, 16, 19, 22, 23.
„ of the Bengal Army in 1857–58, pp. 16, 24, 25.
„ „ „ „ Alphabetical List of mutineers, p. 25.
„ „ „ „ „ „ Officers who did good service in, p. 25.
„ „ „ „ Minutes by Lord Canning on, p. 25.
„ „ „ „ papers in the Record Department, India Office, pp. 24, 25.
„ „ „ „ Special Committee on, p. 25.
„ „ „ „ „ „ Report, p. 25.
„ „ „ „ „ „ Secretary to, p. 25.
Myhere Chief captured, p. 25.
„ Fort, p. 25.
„ storming of, by Lieutenant Willoughby Osborne, p. 25.

Mysore, annexed, pp. 18, 19.
„ Commission, p. 18.
„ Hindoo Family, pp. 12, 18.
„ Maharajah (Hindoo), p. 12.
„ „ „ deposal and death, p. 18.
„ „ „ his adoption, p. 18.
„ (Mahomedan Family), pp. 11, 12, 15.
„ „ „ education for, p. 15.
„ „ „ provision for, p. 15.
„ „ „ Russapuglah School, p. 15.
„ Partition Treaty of, p. 12.
„ Province of, p. 11.
„ Subsidiary Force, p. 13.
„ „ Treaty, pp. 13, 18, 19.
„ Tripartite „ p. 11.
„ War, p. 11.

N.

Nagpore, lapsed to the Campany, p. 23.
„ murder of Rajah of, p. 16.
Nana Sahib (of Bithoor), p. 17.
„ „ the massacre at Cawnpore, p. 25.
Napier, Sir Charles, p. 20.
„ „ appointed Governor of Sind, p. 20.
„ „ „ Commander-in-Chief, p. 22.
„ „ „ „ censured by Lord Dalhousie, he resigns his post of, p. 22.
„ „ „ „ his farewell address to the troops, p. 22.
Nation, most favoured: clause in treaties, p. 17.
National Debt, Commissioners for the reduction of, p. 26.
Native Princes and Chiefs of India: Company empowered to make war or peace with, p. 5.
„ „ „ „ Company's servants not to receive bribes (presents) from, p. 5.
„ „ „ „ „ „ who lend money to, without leave of Government, Governor-General, or Governors of Presidencies, liable to prosecution for misdemeanour, p. 12.
„ „ „ „ deposed, pp. 15, 18.
„ „ „ „ Europeans often prohibited, under Treaty, from serving under, p. 5.
„ „ „ „ letters to and from, p. 16.
„ „ „ „ pecuniary transactions with Europeans: Company will never interfere in, p. 16.
„ „ „ „ presents to and from, p. 16.
„ „ „ „ Treaty relations with Foreign Powers usually prohibited, unless with Company's consent, p. 5.
„ Soldiers: mutiny of, pp. 7, 15, 24, 25.
„ States: adoptions, p. 18.
„ „ annexed, pp. 8, 9, 18.
„ „ debts of, p. 18.
„ „ Dewans of, p. 15.
„ „ lapses of, p. 18.
„ „ troops of, pp. 15, 25.
„ „ version of Treaties. Is this to be preferred to English? p. 19.
Natives: first admitted to magisterial office, p. 19.
„ after school hours, the Bible may be expounded to Native scholars, p. 23.
„ religious differences with, pp. 19, 22, 24.
Navy, Company's, p. 5.
„ Indian, p. 18.
„ Royal, p. 18.
Nawab Nazim of Bengal or Moorshedabad, His Highness the (*see* "B").
Neemuch mutineers, p. 25.
Neill, General, death of, p. 25.
Nepal, infraction of Treaty with, p. 15.
„ war, p. 15.
Netherland's Government: Java ceded to, p. 16.
„ „ „ expulsion of, from, p. 15.
„ „ Ceylon wrested from, p. 12.
„ „ exchanges of territory with, p. 17.
„ „ proceedings and encroachments in Eastern Seas, p. 17.
„ „ St. Helena abandoned by, p. 5.
„ „ their formula of administration in India, p. 6.
„ „ treaties with, p. 16.
Newspapers, pp. 9, 13, 14, 20, 24.
„ leaders, p. 27.
„ prosecuted for libel, p. 13.
Nicobar Islands: abandoned by Denmark, p. 21.
„ „ made over to England, p. 21.
„ „ offered to France and other European powers, p. 21.
Nicholett, Mrs. (daughter of Sir William Nott), pension to, p. 20.

Nicholson, General: death of, p. 25.
Nineveh Marbles, the, p. 20.
Nizam of Hyderabad, His Highness the: part of Mysore assigned to, p. 12.
" " " pecuniary transactions of, with Messrs. W. Palmer and Co., bankers, p. 16.
" " " Treaty with, pp. 8, 11, 12.
Nizamut Affairs (and *see* "Bengal"), p. 7.
" Accounts: Committee to examine and report on, p. 14.
" " " Report of, p. 14.
" Expenses, p. 8.
Northern Circars, p. 8.
Notifications (*see* "Proclamations").
Nott, General Sir William, p. 20.
" " " daughters of, p. 20.
" Lady, p. 20.
Nuggur (or "Bednore"): siege of, p. 11.

O.

Oath of Fealty: from Karens, p. 24.
" " from Khakhyens, p. 24.
Official Agent to Administrators-General of India appointed in England, pp. 14, 22.
" " " " " must be sole Agent, pp. 14, 22.
" Trustee, Madras: defalcations of, p. 14.
Opium: Convention with France, p. 15.
" alleged Convention with Portugal, prohibiting export of, from Goa, p. 17.
" Bengal, p. 17.
" permission to Danes to import, granted, p. 14.
" " " withdrawn, p. 15.
" pp. 15, 17.
Ord, Mr. John, p. 23.
Orders (*see* "Proclamations, Notifications, and Orders").
" of Knighthood, p. 25.
O'Riley, Mr. E.: his contract of friendship with a Karen Chief, p. 24.
Orissa, p. 8.
Oude: Annexation of, p. 23.
" King of: pecuniary claims of Europeans on, p. 11.
" " palace in Garden Reach, Calcutta, p. 23.
" " refusal to accept a pension from Government under Treaty, p. 23.
" " retirement to Calcutta, pp. 23, 24.
" " subsequent acceptance of pension from Government, p. 23.
" " title to cease and pension to be reduced on his death, p. 24.
" " Treaty with the Rohilla Chief, p. 12.
Ouseley, Professor, p. 27.
Outram, Sir James, p. 25.

P.

Pagodas Star, p. 13.
Palmer & Co., Messrs. W., bankers of Hyderabad, p. 16.
Palmerston, Viscount, p. 26.
" " resignation of, p. 26.
Papers and Books relating to the East India Company to be made over to the Secretary of State on the abolition of the Company, p. 27.
Parliament, pp. 6, 7, 8, 19, 26, 27.
" Acts of, pp. 7, 8, 26, 27.
Parliamentary Inquiry into affairs of East India Company, p. 8.
" Returns, pp. 19, 20, 22, 24, 26.
" " mutilated in India Office, p. 20.
Parsedan, p. 9.
Partition Treaty of Mysore, p. 12.
Patel, p. 12.
Patna: Annexation of, p. 7.
" Wahabee conspiracy at, p. 22.
Pattle, Rocke, and Hayes, Messrs., p. 14.
Pegu: Annexation of, p. 22.
Peishwa, the: death of, p. 17.
" " (and *see* "Poona," "Bajee Rao," &c.).
" " the Dewan (Prime Minister), p. 15.
" " Nana Sahib, his son, pp. 17, 25.
" " surrender to Sir John Malcolm, p. 17.
" " Treaty with, pp. 11, 17.
Pelly, Colonel Lewis: Memorandum on Wahabees in the Persian Gulf, p. 22.
Penal Settlements: Indian, pp. 10, 26.
" " Italian, p. 10.
Penang (or Prince of Wales' Island, pp. 9, 10.
" wills and certificates from, p. 14.

Pensions increased in England without consulting Government of India: remonstrance of that Government, p. 21.
„ personal, pp. 19, 20, 23, 24.
„ reduced: Nawab Nazim's, pp. 7. 19.
„ „ Oude pensions will be, on the Ex-King's death, p. 24.
„ Special good service, pp. 16, 20.
Pergunnahs, Twenty-four, p. 7.
"Permanent Revenue Settlement," p. 11.
Persia: Consul-General in London, p. 10.
„ Mission placed under the Foreign Office, p. 19.
„ „ transferred to the India Office, p. 19.
„ „ re-transferred to the Foreign Office, p. 19.
„ The Shah of, p. 10.
„ Treaty with, p. 5.
Persian Gulf: Political Resident, p. 22.
„ siege of Bussorah, p. 9.
„ Wahabees in the, p. 22.
„ pp. 9, 18.
Personal pensions, pp. 19, 20, 23, 24.
„ property, p. 12.
„ Treaties, pp. 8, 23.
Phayre, Major (afterwards Sir) Arthur, p. 23.
Pindarree War, the, p. 16.
Piracy, pirates, &c., p. 17.
Pitt, Right Hon. William, p. 8.
Plassey, battle of, p. 7.
Plowden, Mr. W. H. C., p. 27.
Police of Calcutta, p. 12.
Political Department, India Office, Secretary, pp. 11, 20.
„ „ „ Assistant Secretary, p. 7.
„ „ „ Board of Control: Correspondence in, p. 22.
„ and secret memoranda in basement of India Office, pp. 5, 15, 16.
„ Officers: removal of, p. 13.
„ „ to bring all presents from Natives to account, p. 8.
„ *status* of the Company in India, p. 6.
Pollock, Major-General (afterwards Field Marshal) Sir George, G.C.S.I., K.C.B., pp. 20, 27.
Pondicherry, pp. 11, 17.
„ Governor or Commandant, p. 17.
„ taken from the French, p. 11.
Poona, pp. 15, 16.
„ annexed, p. 17.
„ Political Resident at, pp. 16, 17.
„ Tripartite Treaty at, by the English, the Peishwa, and the Nizam, against Tippoo Saib, p. 11.
„ war with the Peishwa, pp. 16, 17.
Pork fat, alleged to be mixed with the cartridges supplied to the Native Army, p. 24.
Port Blair, the Indian Convict Station, p. 26.
Porte, The, pp. 9, 10.
Portugal, pp. 5, 7, 17.
„ Catherine of, Queen of Charles II., p. 5.
„ Treaty with, p. 5.
„ „ alleged, forbidding export of Opium from Goa, p. 17.
Portuguese India, pp. 5, 7, 17.
„ „ Statistical Account of, p. 17.
„ „ Treaties with, pp. 5, 7, 17.
„ privileges at Surat, pp. 7, 22.
Powers-of-Attorney, p. 9.
Powis, Lord, p. 12.
Presents from Native Princes and Chiefs to Company's servants prohibited, p. 8.
„ „ „ „ whenever allowed, value to be deposited in Government Treasury for return presents, p. 8.
„ to and from Native Princes and Chiefs, pp. 8, 23.
Press Regulations in India, p. 13.
Prime Ministers of Native States, p. 11.
Prince of Wales' Island (or Penang), wills and certificates, p. 14.
„ „ „ appeals, p. 9.
Prisons, pp. 7, 16, 24.
Pritzler, General, p. 16.
Private property, p. 12.
Privateers, p. 17.
Privy Council, pp. 6, 9, 11.
Prize Money, p. 12.
Proceedings (or Consultations) of Bengal Government, p. 24.
Proclamations, Notifications, Orders, &c., pp. 6, 20, 21, 23.
Prohibitions against certain conduct on the part of the Company's servants, pp. 7, 8.
Proprietors of East India Stock, pp. 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 27.
Prosecution for misdemeanour may be instituted against Company's servants making loans to Native Princes and Chiefs, p. 12.
„ for libel of Editor of "Calcutta Journal," p. 13.
Prostration of Europeans before a vacant throne refused, p. 16.

Protection, pp. 15, 17.
Protest against abolition of the East India Company, Mr. John Stuart Mill's, p. 26.
" " " " p. 27.
" of Portuguese Government against abrogation of their commercial privileges at Surat, p. 7
Public Department, pp. 24, 26.
" " (Education), p. 23.
" Works Department, p. 23.
Pulo Condore Island, p. 7.
" " President, p. 7.
" " revolt, p. 7.
Punjab, pp. 18, 19.
" Annexation of, pp. 21, 22.
" Board of Administration, p. 22.
" Cabinet Papers, p. 22.
" Chief Commissioner appointed, p. 22.
" Confidential Papers, p. 22.
" Lieutenant-Governor appointed, p. 22.
" Parliamentary Papers, pp. 21, 22.
" Royal Family, pp. 19, 21.
" Selections, p. 25.
" Treaties, p. 21.
" War (and *see* "Sikh"), pp. 20, 21.

Q.

Queen, Her Majesty the: Letter of thanks to European Officers for service in the Mutiny of 1857–58, p. 25.
" " " took India under her direct control, pp. 26, 27.

R.

Ragojee Angria, p. 20.
Railway, Indian: opening of the first, p. 23.
Rampoor, p. 12.
Rangoon: battle of, p. 22.
" stormed, p. 22.
" surrendered to British troops, p. 17.
" Viceroy of, p. 22.
Rawlinson, Major-General Sir Henry, K.C.B., p. 20.
Rebellions (*see* "Mutinies").
Record Department, India Office, p. 25.
" " " has an index to Board of Control Memoranda in the basement of the Office, p. 15.
Redemption or commutation of East India Stock on the abolition of the Company, pp. 26, 27.
Registrars, Ecclesiastical, &c. of High Court, pp. 13, 14.
"Regulating Act," the, p. 8.
Regulations (*see* "Rules and Regulations").
Reid, Mr. Lestock, p. 27.
Religious ceremonies and rites, p. 18.
" education for Native children: the Bible to be in Government school libraries, and after school hours may be expounded to the scholars, p. 23.
" differences in India, pp. 19, 22, 24.
Removal of Political Officers in Bundelcund and Saugor, p. 20.
Rent payable to the Crown for Company's Indian possessions, p. 8.
Resignation of the Right Honourable George Canning, p. 17.
" Lord Ellenborough, p. 26.
" Sir Charles Napier, p. 22.
" Lord Palmerston, p. 26.
Resolution of Council of India, p. 14.
" Court of Directors, p. 6.
Resolutions: series of, of the House of Commons, in Committee on East India Company, p. 26.
Revenue: of more importance than trade, p. 6.
" assessment, pp. 11, 12.
" collection of, pp. 11, 12.
" and Finance printed accounts, p. 15.
" Settlement, Permanent, p. 11.
Revolts (*see* "Mutinies.")
Rewah, mutiny in, p. 25.
" Political Agent, p. 25.
Rewards to Europeans for services during the 1857–58 Mutiny, p. 25.
Ricketts, Mr. Gilbert, his defalcations and death, p. 13.
Rites and religious ceremonies, p. 19.
Rival Companies, pp. 5, 6.
Rivers, pp. 19, 20, 25.
Road, the Hindostan and Thibet, p. 23.
Rocke, Mr., p. 14.
Roe, Sir Thomas, p. 5.
Rohilla Chiefs, the, p. 12.
" " Treaties with, p. 12.
" war, p. 12.

Rosaz, Chevalier de (*see* De Rosaz).
Royal Navy, p. 18.
Rules and Regulations (and *see* "Proclamations and Notifications"), pp. 5, 6, 7, 8, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 19 22.
Runjeet Sing, Maharajah: death of, p. 19.
„ „ „ his son (Dhuleep Sing), p. 21.
Russapuglagh School, the, p. 15.
Russell, Lord John (afterwards Earl), p. 26.
Ryan, Chief Justice Sir Edward, p. 13.
Ryots, p. 11.
Ryotwaree Settlement, p. 11.

S.

St. Helena abandoned by the Dutch, taken by the Company, p. 5.
„ baptismal and other certificates, wills, &c., at, p. 14.
„ transferred to the Crown, p. 19.
Salaries of the Chairman, Directors, and Secretary of the East India Company since October 1859 p. 27.
Salbye, treaty of, p. 11.
Saldanha, Duke of: his historical protest against abrogation of Portuguese privileges at Surat, p. 7.
Sale, Sir Robert, p. 20.
Salt: convention prohibiting manufacture of, in French Indian possessions, p. 15.
Saltpetre: convention with France, p. 15.
„ permission to Danes to import granted, p. 14.
„ „ „ „ withdrawn, p. 15.
„ p. 17.
Satoor, Gregorio, p. 9.
Sattara: adoption, p. 21.
„ annexation of, p. 21.
„ „ dissents, p. 21.
„ „ Parliamentary papers, p. 21.
„ fortress, p. 16.
„ Rajah, p. 17.
Saugor: administrative changes, p. 20.
„ and Nerbudda territories, p. 25.
Saxe-Bannister, Mr., p. 23.
Schedules of accounts of Administrators-General of India to be advertised in India and England, pp. 13, 14.
„ „ „ „ „ kept in India Office, p. 14.
Schools, p. 15.
„ Government: Native children may have the Bible expounded to them out of school hours, p. 23.
Scinde (*see* "Sind").
Scindia: His Highness the Maharajah (Madajee) of Gwalior, p. 11.
Secret Committee, first, p. 6.
„ Despatch, Lord Ellenborough's, censuring Lord Canning, p. 26.
„ Papers, pp. 5, 16, 17, 19, 20, 21, 22, 24, 25, 26.
Secretaries of the East India Company since its virtual abolition in October 1859, p. 27.
„ of State, p. 11.
„ „ for India, pp. 25, 26, 27.
„ „ „ account at the Bank of England, p. 26.
„ „ „ all books, papers, &c., to be transferred to, on abolition of the Company, p. 27.
„ „ „ annual allowance made by, for the Company's expenses since October 1859, p. 27.
„ „ „ legal adviser to, p. 14.
Security Fund, East India Company's, p. 26.
Sedasheo Munkaseer, p. 15.
Seikh (*see* "Sikh.")
Selections from Records of Government of Bengal, p. 22.
„ „ „ „ Bombay, pp. 17, 22.
„ „ „ „ India, pp. 22, 23, 24, 26.
„ „ „ „ the Punjab, p. 25.
Sepoys, p. 7.
„ mutiny of the Native Army of, pp. 24, 25.
„ „ „ „ „ Lord Canning's Minute on, p. 25.
„ turbans, Vellore: mutiny attributed to alteration in, p. 15.
Seringapatam, p. 12.
„ storming of, p. 12.
Serle, Mr. William Ambrose: his defalcations, p. 14,
Service grants of money, p. 16, 20.
„ „ territory, p. 12.
Settlement: Permanent Revenue, p. 11.
„ Village, p. 11.
„ Revenue, modes of, pp. 11, 12.
Sevajee, of Tanjore, death of, p. 23.
Shah Alum (Subadar), p. 8.
„ Soojah-ool-Moolk, p. 19.

Shahdadad Khan (Wahabee), trial of, p. 23.
Shastree, Gungadhur, murder of, p. 16.
Shere Sing, p. 21.
Ships, pp. 5, 7, 15, 16, 18, 19, 21, 23, 25.
„ overcrowding of, p. 23.
Sholapoor, p. 16.
Shore, Sir John, appointed Governor General, p. 12.
Sieges, pp. 11, 12, 15, 18, 24, 25.
Sikh war, pp. 20, 21.
„ army, surrender of, p. 21.
Sind: Ameers and Ex-Ameers, p. 20.
„ „ „ pensions for, p. 20.
„ annexed, pp. 20, 21.
„ proclamation, p. 20.
„ Sir Charles Napier appointed Governor of, p. 20
„ war, p. 20.
Simlah, p. 23.
Sindia (*see* "Scindia").
Sittana fanatics, p. 22.
Sladen, Major E. B.: his Bhamo expedition, p. 24.
„ „ „ „ kine-slaughtering, and oath of friendship with the Karens, p. 24.
Sleeman & Co., Messrs. H. B., p. 17.
Smith, General, p. 16.
„ Mr. Eric, p. 27.
„ Sir Harry, p. 21.
Sobraon, battle of, p. 21.
Soldiers, Native: mutinies of, pp. 7, 15, 24, 25.
Soojah (ool-Moolk-), Shah, p. 19.
Sooloo, Sultan of, p. 12.
Sooloos, p. 10.
Southern Mahratta country, pp. 12, 14.
Special Committee on services of Europeans during the 1857–58 Mutiny, p. 25.
„ good service grants, p. 16.
Spithead, p. 16.
Standards, Hindoo and Mahomedan, hoisted by mutineers at Cawnpore, p. 24.
Stanley, Lord (now Earl Derby), pp. 25, 26.
„ „ appointed President of the Board of Control, p, 26.
Star pagodas, p. 13.
State Papers, pp. 6, 15, 17.
„ Paper Office, p. 5.
Statistical account of Portuguese India, p. 17.
„ Department of India Office, p. 23.
Staunton, Captain, p. 16.
Steamers, p. 19.
Stock (for East India Stock, *see* "E"), pp. 5, 27.
Stores, p. 19.
Storming of Ahmednuggur, p. 15.
„ Bassein, p. 22.
„ Delhi, p. 25.
„ Lucknow, p. 23.
„ Martaban, p. 22.
„ Myhere, p. 25.
„ Rangoon, p. 22.
„ Seringapatam, p. 12.
Straits Settlements: Dutch proceedings in the Archipelago, p. 17.
„ „ transferred to the Colonial Office, p. 17.
„ „ wills and certificates from Penang, p. 14.
Subsidiary treaty with Mysore, pp. 13, 18.
„ forces in Mysore, p. 13.
Subsidy, annual, towards cost of China Diplomatic Service, p. 19.
„ „ „ „ vessels of Royal Navy, in Eastern Seas, p. 18.
Suez Canal, p. 22.
Suffocation, deaths from, in the Black Hole, Calcutta, p. 7.
Sujah-ool-Moolk, (*see* "Soojah")
Sukias, pp. 9, 10.
Sukkur, p. 20.
Suloos (*see* "Sooloos")
Sumatra, p. 5.
„ ceded to the Dutch, p. 17.
„ treaty with Sultan of Acheen, p. 5.
Sunnuds, p. 5.
Surat, pp. 5, 7.
„ Portuguese privileges at, pp. 7, 22.
„ President and Council, pp. 5, 6.
„ cession of, to the Company, p. 13.
„ Nawab of: Treaty with, p. 13.
„ Surgeons must be with coolie ships, p. 23.
"Susan," p. 5.
Sutlej, the, p. 20.
Suttee abolished by the British Government, p. 18.
Swat fanatics, p. 22.

REPORT by the SPECIAL COMMITTEE appointed to SURVEY and REPORT on the STORES in the GOVERNMENT DOCKYARD at KIDDERPORE.

President:

G. W. CLINE, ESQ., LL.D., F.G.S., *Barrister at Law, Asstt. to the Comptroller General.*

Members:

CAPT. S. C. RODGERS, *Bengal Marine.*

G. R. ROE, ESQ., *Asstt. Naval Store-keeper.*

1. Your committee having completed their work of taking a full and careful inventory of the stores in Her Majesty's Naval Dockyard, Kidderpore, have the honor to submit their report, as requested through the Government of Bengal.

2. Your committee, in their first volume of statistics, Form A, which is submitted with their report, have recorded the stock as taken by them on the different dates indicated; and in Volume II, Form B, also forwarded, they have contrasted the stock in counter columns, as found by them in the yard on actual counting, with the stock as shown in the ledgers which ought to have been in the yard, if those ledgers had been correctly kept. Statistical Returns A and B.

3. They have also reduced into money values, according to the dockyard rating, the differences between the actual and the book results.

4. The Return A, which exhibits the stock, is arranged alphabetically, and is made to conform with the stock ledgers. It is divided into four sections—iron, canvas, brass and copper, and miscellaneous. The first columns show the stores of each section to which they belong grouped in classes; and also show in detail each varieties of the class. It is thus not only the inventory as taken by the committee, but in reality forms also a correct statement of balances of stores in the yard on the dates specified, a return which is required by the Government to be submitted by the Store Department once in five years. The data it affords should be employed to correct the store ledgers, which are wrong in nearly every item. They should be taken as an initial point to start from. The second Volume, Form B, indicates the relative differences in money value between the stores counted and the stores as borne on the books. A supplement has been added to each section in Form A, of articles of store found in different godowns, but which have been omitted to be entered in the ledgers.

5. The stores in the yard are, as explained, classified generally under the four major heads of—I, iron, detailed in 4 folio ledger volumes; II, canvas, detailed in 2 volumes; General classification of stores in the yard.

III, brass and copper, in 2 volumes, and IV, miscellaneous, in 3 folio volumes.

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount of surplus and deficiencies.	Under the I head, Iron, the surplus has been found to be	3,36,012	9	11
	The deficiency	3,50,467	0	0
	According to the inventory, the actual stock under this section amounts to	10,46,237	15	2
	Under the II head, Canvas, the surplus is ...	19,368	11	6
	The deficiency	30,606	2	5
	The actual present stock under this section amounts to	56,008	13	2
	Under the III head, Brass and Copper, the surplus is	56,089	8	6
	The deficiency	66,915	14	0
	The actual stock according to the inventory under this section	2,64,102	8	9
	Under the IV head, Miscellaneous, the surplus is ...	89,588	1	9
	The deficiency	32,126	3	4
	The actual stock according to the inventory amounts under this section to	2,12,055	2	5
Aggregate surplus and deficiency.	The aggregate surplus found by actual counting as compared with the books is	5,01,058	15	8
	The aggregate deficiency is	4,80,115	3	9
	The aggregate amount of stores according to the actual inventory is	15,78,404	7	6
	If no deficiency had been found the aggregate value would have been	20,58,519	11	3

6. No balance can be struck between the surplus and the deficiency by subtracting one from the other, as the difference is found between articles of different descriptions, different classes, and different prices.

7. A brief recital of the condition and quantity of the stores here may not be out of place. The principal iron stores, consisting of sheets of iron, screws and bolts, are stowed at present in an open shed. The other articles of iron are stowed in the different godowns in the yard. The general average condition of the iron stores is fair.

The following abstract will shew the value of some of the principal iron stores in the yard. The value of the balance of miscellaneous iron stores, as detailed in Volume II, is given in a single amount at the foot of the abstract:—

Abstract of principal articles of Iron.	Amount.	Abstract of principal articles of Iron, Volume II.	Amount.
	Rs. A. P.		Rs. A. P.
Anchors, Porter's, patent, common, &c.	1,02,413 13 0	Brought forward ...	8,16,604 9 9
„ screw	389 3 6	Screws	328 3 9
Boilers for steamers	1,20,524 9 4	„ deck	1,734 15 0
Bolts and nuts	15,699 14 3	„ plates, piles, &c.	28,966 14 8
Brace, &c.	1,531 1 0	Shackles, &c.	55,770 7 0
Buoys, Europe, &c.	26,445 10 0	Shafts	3,234 1 0
Cabooses	2,000 0 0	Steel, blister	1,116 11 6
Capstans	13,578 2 0	„ cast	2,814 11 3
Chains, cable	83,584 7 6	„ octagon	1,765 7 0
„ mooring	1,18,250 12 6	„ round	913 13 3
„ rubble	5,895 9 3	„ shear or flat bar	6,393 6 6
Files, bastard, smooth, dead smooth, &c.	3,701 10 0	„ spring	383 7 0
Hooks, „	862 8 3	Swivels	29,458 11 0
Iron, angle	18,716 3 0	Spring chain, safety	34,201 5 0
„ bolt	33,790 11 9	Tacks, pump	1,624 6 0
„ flat bar	34,965 13 6	Tanks, iron	5,050 0 0
„ „ Swedish	9,629 10 0	Taps and dies	11,970 0 0
„ half-round	1,597 11 9	Thimbles, galvanized	1,241 14 3
„ pig	17,524 0 0	Tools, consisting of augurs, chisels, gimlets, gauges, hammers, pins, jaws, scrapers, shovels, &c.	5,273 3 3
„ sheet	81,015 0 3	Tubes	17,395 11 0
„ „ (Lowmoor)	11,794 8 3	Vice-adjusting, &c.	1,141 4 3
„ square bar (Swedish)	12,235 4 6	Wire	391 2 6
„ T	6,370 0 0	„ steel	195 12 9
Kentledge iron	3,401 0 6		
Locks, fore	1,120 0 0	TOTAL ...	10,27,970 1 8
Mooring	39,901 0 0		
Machine, rivetting	2,984 10 8		
Nails, brad, clasp, &c.	10,681 9 0	The balance of articles of Iron, as per details of Volume I, Section I, and Volume II, Section I	18,267 13 6
Pans, baking, &c.	485 2 0		
Planes, &c.	206 12 0		
Rings, &c.	2,946 14 0		
Rivets	26,937 6 3		
Rope, wire, galvanized	5,424 0 3		
Carried over ...	8,16,604 9 9	GRAND TOTAL ...	10,46,237 15 2

8. The principal articles of canvas, coir, hemp, India rubber, shown under the Canvas section may be thus briefly indicated, showing their money values :—

Abstract of principal articles in the Canvas and Coir Section, Vol. II.	Amount.
	Rs. A. P.
Buntin	982 13 0
Canvas	6,293 3 [illegible]
Cloth, &c.	796 4 6
Fearnought...	491 5 3
Hemp, Europe	621 14 3
Junk, Coir	1,642 4 6
Lines, deep sea lead	982 10 3
Oakum, Coir	276 4 0
Oil, &c.	717 3 6
Paint, &c.	11,599 8 6
Pitch, Europe	2,506 0 0
Rope, Coir	3,181 7 9
„ Manilla	4,341 8 6
„ W. J. Hemp	4,420 8 3
„ Bolt	3,932 4 6
Tar, &c, ...	3,118 9 9
Turpentine	1,846 10 0
Twine	1,634 4 0
Tacks, patent packing	258 7 0
Vulcanized India Rubber	1,900 14 6
Yarn, spun, white, Europe, &c.	1,684 14 6
TOTAL ...	53,228 15 6
The balance of articles of canvas, as per details in Vol. II, Sec. II ...	2,779 13 8
GRAND TOTAL ...	56,008 13 2

9. The details indicated in the balance of canvas stores, shown at the foot of the column, are to be found in Volume II.

10. The condition of the canvas is good with the exception of some bales; but some better arrangements may be made for storing the articles of vulcanized India Rubber, and also the buntin and silk. There should be a special canvas godown for the stores under this section.

11. The total value of the Brass and Copper section amounts to Rs. 2,64,102-8-9, as shown in the abstract. The details are fully given in Volume II, showing the value of each article.

Abstract of principal articles in the Brass and Copper Section, Vol. II.	AMOUNT.
	Rs. A. P.
Brass, old	2,272 14 3
„ sheets	6,926 13 0
Copper bolt	15,217 10 6
„ sheets	1,16,421 6 6
Gauges, Pressures, &c.	1,277 11 0
Hinges	678 10 6
Lanthorn, Mast-head, &c.	1,202 10 0
Lead Sheets	2,748 1 3
Locks, Almirah, Chest, Cupboard, Desk, Door, Brass, &c. ...	12,217 14 0
Nails, &c.	20,552 5 6
Pipes, Lead	2,744 0 3
Reflectors	1,168 0 0
Rods, Brass	215 12 9
Screws, Brass-headed, &c.	249 13 9
Scuttles, Brass	1,147 8 0
Solder, Soft Tin	2,123 5 0
Spelter, Sheets	4,091 9 6
Tacks, Pump, Copper	4,215 2 9
Tubes, Brass	56,658 0 0
Ventilators, Brass	2,700 0 0
Wire, Brass and Copper	1,808 11 3
Zinc Tiles	1,025 1 9
TOTAL ...	2,57,663 1 6
The balance of articles of Brass and Copper, as per details in Volume II	6,439 7 3
GRAND TOTAL ...	2,64,102 8 9

12. The aggregate amount of Miscellaneous stores may be represented by Rs. 2,12,055-2-5. The abstract represents a few of the principal items. For the details showing the value of each article, Volume II should be referred to.

Abstract of principal articles in Miscellaneous Section, Vol. II.	Amount.
	Rs. A. P.
Belting, Leather and Vulcanized India Rubber	1,255 11 0
Books, &c.	2,124 13 0
Brushes, Hair, Paint, Pen, Scrubbing, Tar, Tube, &c.	1,415 0 0
Buoy, Life, Cork, Solah, and Wooden	19,722 12 0
Candles	1,255 7 9
Coals, Bengal, Europe, and Smithy	53,486 12 6
Coke	3,711 6 3
Compass, Azimuth, &c.	7,421 13 0
Engine, Fire	2,401 0 0
Gauge, Glass or Tube	453 10 0
Glass, Bull's Eye, Chimney, Log, Looking, Blue, Red, Pane, &c. ...	5,229 8 6
Glass, Plate, Binocular, Spy, Tumbler, &c.	2,856 14 3
Lamps, Lanthorns, &c.	1,430 15 0
Lights, Deck	557 1 0
Oars, Ash	6,273 5 0
Plank	572 14 6
Time-pieces	1,974 0 0
Tin Sheets, Double and Single	7,302 8 6
Wood, Lignum vitæ	78,789 4 0
Total ...	1,98,235 5 3
The balance of Miscellaneous, as per details in Vol. No. II ...	13,819 13 2
Grand Total ...	2,12,055 2 5

13. In addition to these articles of store, there are the machinery and plant and block in the Engineer's and Builder's Department. The instructions issued to your committee did not empower them to take an account of these. As all stores and materials when issued to the Builder's and Engineer's Department for conversion are written off the ledgers, no inventory of these stores, therefore, was necessary.

As the Assistant Store-keeper was a member and zealously co-operated with the committee during the entire period of their work, any mistakes in the classification or description of articles were precluded.

14. Your committee, in addition to taking stock, have classified the articles which are in store, and have seen to their being properly stored in the different godowns in the yard. Articles of store, such as anchors, kentledges, mooring-chains, which were lying about the yard, have been brought together and stacked; their size and weight are marked with white paint to prevent any future intermixture.

Agents supplying stores from local markets.

15. Your committee drew the attention of the Master Attendant to the necessity of marking all stores in the yard with the Government mark of the Broad Arrow. Instructions were also requested to be issued to the principal agents and contractors who supply the yard with raw materials, that they should, in such articles as cables and ropes, mark them in the same manner as Her Majesty's ships' stores of that description are marked, by some characteristic or distinctive manufacturer's mark.

Arrears in the ledgers under the present system.

16. Your committee regret to notice the great arrears in the store ledgers. The committee would remark that as stores are only supplied to Government vessels or Government departments on indent, and to the Builder and Engineer on demand notes, the amount of work which such an issue involves is not so great as to prevent the ledgers from being kept up to date, especially as the former system of keeping separate ledger accounts, to show the money value of all stores issued or returned, has been discontinued.

Causes leading to such arrears.

It has, however, been objected that as day-books of receipts and issues have been discontinued, the naval store-keeper is precluded from keeping up his books to date, so that arrears under the present system are unavoidable. This is a misconstruction of the rules. The Government, when initiating this change, had prescribed in their rules that a register should be kept in which all indents and demand notes on which stores are issued should be recorded; and in order that no arrears should accrue, it had also been ruled that weekly abstracts of stores issued should be made by the naval store-keeper under each head of stores, and the aggregate quantity of stores issued should be recorded in the store ledger. If this had been done, the arrears would not have occurred, and the work of the committee in verifying the stores would have been rendered easy.

Misapprehension of some rules.

17. The rule as regards balancing the store ledger every three months appears also to have been misconstrued. It was not intended by this rule that the entries in the ledger should only be made every three months and then balanced. Such a system would inevitably lead to confusion and error. The entries in the ledger should be made on the day of the compliance of each indent, and on the receipt of each supply of stores, as soon as those stores have been surveyed and passed. These entries being thus made daily, the ledgers should be balanced quarterly by drawing a line under the last entry on the receipt and issue sides, in order not only that the balance may form the first entry on the commencement of each quarter, but also that the ledger may thus itself be checked readily with the actual stock in hand.

18. Your committee would also point out, that if the ledgers had thus been kept up daily or even weekly, and if the store-keeper at frequent intervals had selected a few articles, and had satisfied himself that the quantity actually in store had agreed with the quantity as entered in the ledger, few differences would have occurred, and instead of the quantity of each article varying, on verification with the ledger entries, there would have been a satisfactory coincidence between the actual stock in hand and the stock as shown on the books.

19. It may be remarked in passing, that no indents for public companies are complied with. Work for private individuals or ship-owners is not largely done. Private ships, as in Bombay, are not docked. There are at present but few Government vessels on the strength of the naval establishment. The small amount of stores annually supplied to ships or to Departments as compared with Bombay should have ensured accuracy in the returns, correctness in the books.

Defective system and delay in entering stores received.

20. Your committee has noticed a defect of system in recording stores, which has come under their observation and which should be corrected. The practice at present is, that when articles or stores are delivered in the yard, there is a greater delay than necessary in bringing those stores on the ledgers. It has been the practice hitherto of not making any entries in the ledgers until the end of each quarter, when the time arrives that they should be balanced. It is within the personal knowledge of the committee that stores which have been received during the quarter ending 31st December 1874, have not been brought on the ledgers.* The committee are aware that there is some necessary delay in making survey

* They allude, amongst other articles, to some large boxes of coffee-mills received from England, to buoys received in exchange of anchors from the Port Trust Commissioners, and to some anchors and buoys and other articles returned from Mutlah.

reports; but when the reports have once been made and the stores have been passed, they are of opinion that no delay should take place in bringing those stores at once on the ledgers. Unless this is done, surpluses will be found to exist, and the ledger, which ought to be a faithful record of every article of store in the yard, will be necessarily vitiated.

Discrepancies. Surpluses.

21. Your committee would draw the attention of Government to the marked differences in almost every item between the amount of stores as found in the yard and the amount as entered in the ledgers. There is an invariable discrepancy between the stock as found by the committee and the stock as shown in the books; and this discrepancy is to be traced not only in items of small value, but also in such important items as anchors, cables, chains, buoys: in articles which represent large values, and for which large sums of money have been paid by the Government.

22. It may be asserted that if deficiencies have been found in several articles, a surplus has also been discovered. The committee look upon the surplus items as the results of a careless or inaccurate system of book-keeping. If articles when first received in store were carefully and duly brought on the ledgers, there would be no surplus. But they have been received in the yard either direct from England, or from the local markets in Calcutta, or they have been returned by ships when no longer required, or from vessels which have been dismantled. Survey reports have been made on them, time has been allowed to elapse, invoices and receipts have been misplaced or lost, and they have been allowed to remain in the godowns, while no entries have been made in the ledgers to show when they were received, or from whom.

23. A system which allows of so much laxity tends to vitiate the accounts. It virtually removes those checks which can only be applied by frequently testing the stores. It results in presenting an incorrect instead of a correct balance.

Storage.

24. Where stores which cost the Government such large sums of money are concerned, it is natural to expect that some care would have been taken in storing them. But the committee regret that this has not been done. Chains and anchors have been lying about the yard, and even such articles as canvas have for months past been stowed away—not in the canvas godowns—but in the rooms of the office of the Superintendent of the dockyard. It may be urged in justification that there is not adequate room. But measures ought to be taken to rectify this. The committee have endeavoured to the extent within their power to classify and store with some regard to order and method the different articles of which they have taken stock.

25. In many instances, such as iron, copper and brass bolts and nuts, rivets, nails, and screws, the different sizes were found to be intermixed. These had to be re-assorted before weighment. They had also to be classified and properly stored. This involved much time and labor which had not been anticipated.

26. The committee would strongly suggest the necessity of a separate canvas godown, where the bales of canvas, bunting, silk, and Russia duck, and other cloths now in different rooms, should be stored. The marked deficiencies between the ledger and the actual balance would point to the desirability of such an arrangement. An additional store godown might also with advantage be built near the dock basin

for the shelter of the stores on those ships which are docked. This would prevent loss and deterioration.

Absence of stock-taking by the Store-keeper by the selection of occasional articles for verification.

27. If the rules which are laid down for the guidance of the Store-keeper's department were carried out; if occasional inventories of any of the articles in store were taken by the Store-keeper; if deficiencies were noted by him—and those deficiencies would have been patent according to the present balances of the ledgers;—if he had even reported those deficiencies as required under the rules to the Superintendent of the dockyard for the orders of Government, much of the present confusion in the accounts, as well as the uniform discrepancies between the actual and book balance, would have been avoided. Greater care would have been taken by the clerks and assistants in the Store Department to keep up at least an approximately true record of transactions. And the knowledge on their part that checks of this nature were employed, would at least have taught them that any abstractions from the stores, which were not properly recorded in the ledgers, or duly vouched and registered, would have been easy of ready detection.

28. But it may be asked, how often within the last five years has any such occasional inventory been taken by the successive Naval Store-keepers for the purposes of testing the correctness of their balances; and how often, if ever, under Rule 53,* have statements been submitted to the Superintendent of the deficiencies, with explanation as to their causes, for his orders or for those of Government?

Every article weighed or measured by the committee.

29. If the committee had found on the first verification of stock any coincidence between the book balances and the actual balances, the verification would not have been carried on with the minuteness of detail which has been observed. Every article has, according to the orders of the Government, been weighed or measured; chains and cables and anchors which have required nearly forty men a day to move, have had to be stacked so as to be readily measured. And this care has been observed not only as regards the more valuable stock, but every article, however small, has been counted, weighed, classified and measured before the members of the committee, with due advertence to the classification of the ledger.

Suggestions.

30. Your committee would here briefly suggest a few simple improvements which may with advantage be carried out. The procedure involved would entail no additional labor. It would prevent the present inaccuracies in the store ledgers.

31. It is not necessary for the committee to observe that the store accounts are accounts only of articles received, issued or used, or remaining under charge of the Store-keeper. They are not accounts of cash, money receipts, or of expenditure. They are susceptible not only of an exact check, but in their compilation so far from being complex, any office establishment, if properly supervised, ought to be able to keep them up, not only correctly, but without those arrears, extending over some months, in which they were found when the committee commenced work.

32. There are at present eleven ledgers for the stores. While the classification in these ledgers are correct, several articles were found in the yard or in the godowns which were not entered at all, and for which a supplementary list has been now made.

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* The Rules for the guidance of Officers in the Marine Department.

33. In scarcely a single item, as stated, were the book entries in accord with the actual results of the inventory. This is to be regretted. It indicates a defect of system, or negligence in accounting.

34. To obviate this, the committee would suggest a more strict supervision by the Naval Store-keeper of his establishment; and some re-allotment of duties as at present performed by them.

35. There should be a greater personal responsibility, and a more exact system of recording receipts and issues than there is at present.

36. The rule should strictly be observed that every article of store should be under the charge of responsible persons supervised by the Store-keeper, and that whenever stores are issued, the sircar or assistant issuing them will take a receipt for them, will at once file that receipt, and bring the entries on the stock ledger, and the person who received them shall account for them and be responsible for them.

37. No transfer of stores should be made without two lists of such stores being prepared,—the invoice list and the receipt list.

38. It is not necessary that these lists should be on separate sheets. A counterfoil sheet, showing the invoice on one part and the receipt as its counterpart, would be preferable. The invoice should be signed by the Naval Store-keeper and retained by the receiving officer, while the receipt should be signed by the receiving officer and returned without delay to the naval store-keeper. There will thus be a voucher in the possession of each.

39. It has been urged in justification of the arrears in the books of the office, that these receipts are not sometimes returned until some lapse of time, and until they are returned no entries can be made. This is erroneous. That when stores are issued to out-stations some delay will take place is not to be denied. But the committee are of opinion that no stores should be despatched before first being entered in the ledgers. And to obviate the delay in the filing of the receipt as a voucher, during the interval between the despatch and return of the receipt, a copy of the receipt should be retained on the files as a voucher, and on the return of the original the copy should be removed and the original filed.

40. But as in many instances officers of ships take delivery at the counters, no necessity exists for preparing duplicate copies. As the nomenclature of the ledgers should not be altered when once fixed, care should be taken that receiving officers should not be allowed in their receipts to adopt any other terms than those which have been entered in the ledger.

41. Before sending stores away under cover of an invoice, the Naval Store-keeper should certify that such transfer of stores has been posted in the ledgers. Such a certificate might form a heading in the printed invoices.

42. Indeed, unless these postings are made, and unless the Naval Store-keeper satisfies himself that they are made, and certifies to it, the committee are under an apprehension that errors will again vitiate the store accounts; and that no prescribed safeguards against loss will be effectual until this is done. And that for the simple reason, that unless the balances are struck daily, as they are in every mercantile house; as they are in every other store department

known to the committee, as they are in every Engineer Store Department; and as they are in every other private or public company's yards, it will be impossible to ascertain what the balances are. By a daily balance the committee do not mean that all the ledgers should be balanced, but only the columns which appertain to those articles which have been issued.

43. Any one acquainted with the stock ledger will find that a special column is appropriated for each variety of store, and those which differ in quality, size, or pattern, are entered in their respective columns, and under their respective heads.

44. Thus there are in the ledgers under separate columns—

		ft.		ft.	oz	
Copper sheets	6	×	4	70	to the foot.
	4	×	4	60	
	4	×	2	50	
Brass sheets	6	×	4	90	

If an indent is made on the 20th June for copper 4 feet × 2 feet, only that particular column should be balanced in the ledger under which that dimension of copper sheet is entered on its delivery on the 20th June.

At present, so far from these entries being made in the ledgers and the items balanced, they are delayed for months, when both invoice and receipt may be misplaced or forgotten, and even the entries in the weekly registers are too often neglected to be made.

45. As regards stores purchased from the local markets, or received from England through the Secretary of State, instead of their not being brought on the ledgers, as now, for some time after arrival, they should at once be surveyed and posted in the stock ledgers from the original invoices. The rule as prescribed is that "stores should be taken charge of by posting them in the ledger direct." This is not done. When stores are purchased from the local markets, a duplicate bill should be obtained from the vendor, and after being countersigned by the Naval Store-keeper, should be filed as an invoice, and the entries should be made in the ledger. Thus the ledger would form in itself a complete account of the stores received, of their number and quantity, of the amount issued, and of the balance remaining on any day of the year. The condition of the stores, and the place or godowns where they might be found, might also be briefly indicated; and not only should entries be made on the transfer of stores to departments and commanders of vessels, but also for every inter-departmental transfer of stores, even to officers in the yards.

46. When stores have been returned by commanders of vessels, or stock received back owing to the dismantling of ships, full entries in the ledgers should be recorded. It has been stated to the committee that articles have been returned to the yard by commanders, and such articles as chains, buoys, anchors, ropes, placed in different parts of the yard without any corresponding entry in the ledgers being made. This practice, in the opinion of the committee, is reprehensible. The invoice and receipt forms should, in the committee's opinion, be employed whenever stores pass either inter-departmentally or otherwise between any members of the yard, or officers of the Bengal Marine Service, or even between the different native sub-store-keepers of the yard, whether those stores are transferred as a temporary or permanent measure.

47. Indeed, the committee would wish to see introduced in the administration of the yard, not only a more accurate system of recording the accounts, but they would also wish to see a greater responsibility attach to those to whom the executive administration in the yard is entrusted. The Store-keeper should evince something of the same interest in the stores delivered to him as a trustee for the Government, as he would take if they were his own. Deficiencies should be easy of detection under a correct system of accounts; and any loss when detected should without hesitation be reported to the Superintendent for the orders of the Government.

Necessity for a greater personal responsibility.

48. Your committee, in taking stock, have remarked that in many godowns there have been some stores which have not been used for some years, and that when stores are not needed, some loss is inevitable from deterioration. Under a system where there is no direct responsibility, there are but few motives for economy. It, however, lies with the Superintendent of the dockyard in future to control the growth of expenditure to Government by strictly revising excessive indents for stores from London, the charge for which is not appreciable in the dockyard accounts, because those charges are paid by the Secretary of State, and adjusted, not by a direct payment by the dockyard authorities, but by an inter-departmental adjustment between the Home and Indian Governments.

Excess of stores in the yard over the actual requirements, and deterioration thereby.

49. The committee would particularly point to such instances as acids, anchors, chains and mooring-cables, which have for years past been lying idle in the yard.

50. If, on the other hand, it will be found impracticable to make any such improvements, it will then become necessary to limit the indents for stores to an annual amount commensurate with the actual work done. The committee would select at random any page of their inventory, and even taking up such articles as are largely indented for at present, such as iron sheets, glass, &c., they find that the actual amount consumed during a quarter is so small that a very large surplusage must remain in stock.

Necessity for economy in Indents.

Thus the following articles, selected at random, show that during the last three months, scarcely any portion has been indented for. The same remark would apply to very many other description of stores:—

Articles.	Measures.	Quantity or No., as borne on the Stock Ledger on 31st December 1874.			Weight or No., as borne on the Stock Ledger on 31st March 1875.		
Lowmoor.		Cwt.	qr.	lbs.	Cwt.	qr.	lbs.
Iron sheets	8 × 4 × $\frac{5}{8}$	31	1	19	31	1	19
Ditto	7 × 4 + $\frac{5}{8}$	68	2	22	68	2	22
Ditto	6 × 4 × $\frac{5}{8}$	65	3	13	65	3	13
Ditto	6 × 38 × $\frac{5}{8}$	14	1	$2\frac{8}{16}$	14	1	$2\frac{8}{16}$
Ditto	6 × $3\frac{1}{2}$ × $\frac{5}{8}$	15	0	26	15	0	26
Ditto	6 × 3 × $\frac{5}{8}$	15	0	17	15	0	17
Ditto	6 × 2 × $\frac{5}{8}$	14	1	24	14	1	24
Ditto	5 × $3\frac{1}{2}$ × $\frac{5}{8}$	11	3	6	11	3	6
Ditto	5 × 3 × $\frac{5}{8}$	58	1	6	58	1	6
Ditto	8 × 4 ×	13	1	17	13	1	17
Ditto	7 × 4 × $\frac{1}{2}$	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ditto	6 × 4 × $\frac{1}{2}$	221	1	9	221	1	9

Articles	Measures	Quantity on 31st December 1874.			Quantity as borne on Store Ledger, quarter ending March 1875.		
		Cwt.	qr.	lbs.	Cwt.	qr.	lbs.
Iron T, each weighing ...	6″ × 5″ × 1″/2	342	2	3	342	2	3
Ditto „ ...	6 × 4 × 1/2	141	3	24	141	3	24
Ditto „ ...	5 × 5 × 1/2	54	1	9	54	1	9
Ditto „ ...	4 × 4 × 1/2	3	2	27	3	2	27
Ditto „ ...	4 × 2 × 3/8	164	0	8	164	0	8
Ditto „ ...	3½ × 3½	1	1	10	1	1	10
Ditto „ ...	3 × 3	0	1	11	0	1	11
Ditto „ ...	2½ × 2½	2	0	18	2	0	18
Ditto, cut pieces ...	Of sizes.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Iron, Flat Bar, each weighing	7″ × 1¼″	51	2	12	51	2	12
Ditto „ ...	6½ × 1¼	51	0	17	51	0	17
Ditto „ ...	6 × 1	7	0	20	7	0	20
Ditto „ ...	6 × 3/4	25	1	20	24	0	20
Ditto „ ...	6 × 5/8	4	3	1	4	3	1
Ditto „ ...	5½ × 3/4	23	2	16	23	2	16
Ditto „ ...	5½ × 1/2	24	2	14	24	2	14
Ditto „ ...	5½ × 1/4	27	2	2	27	2	2
Ditto „ ...	5 × 3	64	1	23	64	1	23
		Quantity as borne on Stock Ledger on 31st December 1874.			Quantity as borne on Stock Ledger on 17th May 1875.		
	oz.	Cwt.	qr.	lbs.	Cwt.	qr.	lbs.
Copper Sheet, each weighing ..	100′ 4 × 4′	15	0	20	15	0	20
Ditto „ ...	90 6 × 4	15	2	19	15	2	19
Ditto „ ...	90 4 × 4	20	0	17½	20	0	17½
Ditto „ ...	80 4 × 4	77	0	24¾	74	0	4½
Ditto „ ...	80	0	1	10½	0	0	0
Ditto „ ...	70 6 × 4	21	1	20¼	21	1	20¼
Ditto „ ...	70 4 × 4	25	2	1	25	2	1
Ditto „ ...	0¼ 6 × 3	1	3	24	1	3	24
Ditto „ ...	60 6 × 3	2	0	21½	2	0	23½
Ditto „ ...	60 4 × 4	12	3	26	12	3	26

51. While it is quite true that the marine indents have to be made on carefully revised established proportions, based on the average consumption of two years, still there is the fact, as seen from a comparison with the ledgers, that in many articles such as those quoted, the quarterly consumption is very trifling, or scarcely appreciable with the large stock in hand. The same remark would apply to the very large quantity of chain cables and mooring-chains in stock.

52. It was anticipated that the Port Trust would have relieved the dockyard by indenting on it for some of the surplus mooring-chains. But as they refuse to do so, to prevent these chains from deteriorating through the corroding action of the rains to which they are exposed, some measures ought to be adopted for their sale or transfer to ports where they may be required.

53. The high price already paid for them would render this necessary as an economical measure. While the present system of indents on the Secretary of State provides for the probable requirements of the year in new kinds of stores, and in new articles of equipment, there is not much in the forms of indent employed to show what the large unemployed balances in stock are. Nor does it appear that the annual expenditure of stores is reviewed in a form which can present to the Government an intelligent view of the yard's transactions, so as to afford assurance that the expenditure has been conducted with economy.

Necessity for an annual partial inventory.

54. To prevent the recurrence of any future deficiencies in the stores or materials of the yard, the committee would suggest an annual partial inventory by an officer deputed for this duty, belonging to any other department, and who may be unconnected with the yard. Such an inventory ought not to last more than a fortnight, and a report of the results should be submitted to Government. It would serve as a check not only upon the stores, but it would also

ensure the ledger and books of the yard being kept up with regularity and up to date.

55. Previous to the inventory, the store ledgers should be checked by the same officer, and the files of indents, demand notes, and other vouchers compared. Such a task could be entrusted to the Civil Finance Department, which undertakes the financial audit and check of so many other departments and offices in Calcutta.

56. An audit is already made by the Military Department, but the committee believe that a merely formal audit, without an actual inventory, is not in itself a sufficient safeguard against loss or deficiencies. Such an inventory would not only invite carefulness in the custody of the stores, but it would also ensure the books being brought up to date, and would necessitate some ordinary supervision by the Store-keeper as to the manner in which his ledgers are kept.

Store-keeper's signature should be affixed to the ledger.

57. It is not only necessary, in the opinion of the committee, that all copies of orders and contracts should be kept by the Store-keeper; that invoice and demand notes should bear his countersignature and be filed with receipts as vouchers; but it is also imperative, as a check upon laxity of practice, that the entries in the ledgers should also be daily or weekly signed by him. The committee believe that in consonance with the dockyard practice, the Naval Store-keeper is exempted from much, if not all, out-door work, in order that he may devote the greater part of his time to the supervision of his office, and in order to check and satisfy himself of the correctness of the accounts. To ensure greater accuracy, they would suggest that in future the Store-keeper's signature be affixed daily or weekly to his ledger entries.

On change of Naval Store-keepers, survey of stores to be held.

58. They would also recommend, on every change of Store-keepers, a survey of stores to be held by them. An inventory, partial or entire, with the conjunction of some of the responsible assistants in the yard, should be taken. The officer who assumes charge of the stores should satisfy himself that the articles are in the yard for which he becomes responsible, and that the cash and store accounts and contingencies, if any, are correct. The countersignature of the outgoing and incoming officers to the ledgers, or to some formal document, should attest that charge has been received and delivered; and before the last officer is allowed to leave, the ledgers showing the balances of stores of which he makes over delivery should be signed by him.

59. Your committee believe that such a procedure would be adopted in any other department of the Government where stores are concerned. They regret to find that the ledgers of the dockyard indicate no such formal transfer of charge and responsibilities, and that there are no signatures of the relieving or relieved officers in the ledgers of the last official year to indicate what balances of stores were made over to the relieving officer. The committee think it necessary to call some attention to these points, as although the subject may be collateral to that in which they are engaged, namely, in reporting on the results of their labor, still they think that unless these simple rules are observed in practice, their efforts in trying to give an initial, or correct starting point to the new store ledgers, will end in no practical good unless some restrictive rules prescribing future safeguards are carried out.

60. Unless such a formal transfer of charge is made and accepted, there cannot be any responsibility attaching to the office of the Store-keeper.

61. The rule at present in force is, "that no credit should be allowed to the Store-keeper for stores issued, unless also a receipt is attached by him, signed by some authorised person duly receiving them, as a voucher." But vouchers and receipts will be rendered valueless, as documents, if the Store-keeper could assert that when he took over charge the books were in arrears, the balances were not struck, and he was not aware whether the articles stated to be in the yard, according to the ledger entries, were in reality there.

62. And yet, if the committee are not much mistaken, such has actually been the case during the past two years, when five successive Naval Store-keepers have accepted office in the yard, and have resigned, or been transferred to other offices. If the rule is to be carried out, which the committee believe is in contemplation, that "articles embezzled, and not reported on, should be debited to the Store-keeper," then it is of the highest importance that the greatest exactitude in the accounts, and the most minute observance to rules prescribed by the Government, be enforced.

Paucity of store godowns.

63. The paucity of the store godowns, as compared with the actual requirements of the yard, has been noticed. They would also here point to the necessity of each godown being always under lock and key, except during those hours when service exigencies require them to be opened for the issue of stores. The miscellaneous godown, they would remark, is always open during office hours, as it has partly been made into an office for the Assistant Store-keeper and some of the clerks. The same remark applies to the iron godown, where rivets and screws are kept in open casks, and where both small and large articles of manufactured iron are kept in an open shed. The practice appears to be objectionable, as against rule, and as leading to loss. They would recommend that in future no godowns be allowed to be kept open. Iron railings as a substitute for doors might be fitted to the open doorways in the iron godown, and a separate office room should be allowed to the Assistant Store-keeper.

64. Before concluding this report, it may be as well to summarise briefly the principal recommendations, leaving a number of minor suggestions to be sought for in the body of the report.

65. Those recommendations are —

I. That with a view to guard against undue arrears in the ledgers, all indents and demand notes be recorded, and that no stores be issued without entries being made in a daily register, to show the nature and amount of stores issued.

II. The necessity of keeping up the ledgers by transferring daily the corresponding entries from the registers of stores supplied.

III. The advisability of the Store-keeper's signing, or initialling every day, the register and the ledgers under his charge.

IV. The necessity of an occasional inspection by the Superintendent of the dockyard himself of the store godowns, in order to ascertain that the ledgers are kept up, and that the balances are correctly stated, and that due care has been taken in storage, and that the store department is worked efficiently and economically. Such periodical inspections would also enable the Superintendent to ascertain whether the stock is, or is not, kept up in excess of actual requirements.

V. The necessity on the part of the Store-keeper to enter in his ledger with the least practicable delay, all stores

received either by local contracts in India, or through the Secretary of State from England.

VI. As the weekly registers of receipt and issue ordered by Government have been allowed to fall into arrears, and have, in fact, not been kept with the regularity which would alone ensure accuracy, that a day-book of receipts and issues be re-instituted.

VII. That no indent or demand notes be complied with unless the Store-keeper's signature is affixed to the document, certifying that the entries have been recorded in the ledger or in the day-book.

VIII. That the Store-keeper should at frequent intervals satisfy himself of the correctness of the balance of his stores, by selecting any stores, and ascertaining that the quantity shown in the ledger agrees with the quantity in store.

IX. That special clerks, or conductors, now employed under the Store-keeper and his Assistant, be placed in charge of special godowns, and that they be held responsible for the stores in their respective godowns, the Store-keeper and his Assistant exercising a general control and surveillance over them. This will require some re-adjustment of the duties of some of the executive subordinates employed under the Store-keeper. The advantage under this system would be, that a greater personal responsibility would be secured and enforced against responsible executives charged with special duties, and who are looked upon as the curators and custodians of limited and known quantity of stores. The varied and responsible work of the store department under its present system would be better defined. The unequal experience and intelligence of different men would be utilized by limiting them to special work, and by narrowing their duties to a limited groove. And by thus sub-dividing the present store-issuers into groups, each responsible for their godowns, it would secure with economy and efficiency and less risk, the recognition of the fundamental principle of the responsibility of special persons for their own special work.

X. That no stores be issued which are not branded with the Government stamp of the Broad Arrow. A special sircar has been sanctioned by the Government of Bengal for this specific work.

XI. That in consideration of the capabilities of the yard, and the large excess of stores, and the increased requirements of the public, as far as docks are concerned, owing to an increase in the shipping of the port, that the dock be utilized by being rendered available, as the Government dock in Bombay is, for repairs of private ships trading with the port, thus rendering the dockyard to a certain extent self-supporting, which at present it is not.

XII. Your committee would suggest that the ledgers be corrected according to the inventory. The balances as at present borne on the ledgers are not correct. The inventory results should now be adopted. The corrections should be made by adding or subtracting the differences between the inventory and ledger balances. No efforts either *ab extra* by the committee, or *ab intra* by the Departmental Officers, will be of any avail, unless the ledgers are properly kept and unless the balances are frequently tested in the future by partial inventories.

XIII. Your committee would lastly draw the attention of the Master Attendant to the recent orders of the Viceroy in

Council, which makes it imperative in future that all Government stores should be marked with the Broad Arrow after receipt or manufacture; that the officer responsible for receipt of stores be required on each occasion to certify that they bear the Government mark, and have been so marked, and that in the case of converted stores, the officer responsible for such conversion be required on each occasion to certify that they bear the Government mark.

66. It will rest with the Government whether any changes of an administrative nature should be deemed necessary, or any alteration in the present system of audit, or the appointment of a Controller of Marine Accounts. It is not in the province of the committee, however, to make any suggestions beyond those which refer to the condition of the stores, and which have arisen from the store records and store ledgers before them. In conclusion they have to express their acknowledgments for the attention they have met with from the Master Attendant. Finally, they would state that this Report would have been submitted when it was written early in August on the completion of the inventory, but the statistical volumes could not be completed until the last items of the ledger balances were forwarded to the President, which was in September.

G. W. CLINE.
S. C. RODGERS.
G. B. ROE.

Declaration required under letter No. 72, dated the 22nd January 1875, from the Government of India, in the Marine Department, addressed to the President.

"We, whose names are hereunto subscribed, have taken a strict and careful survey of the stores herein referred to, and have found them as stated against the articles respectively; and we do further declare that we have made and taken this survey with such care and attention that we are ready, if required, to make oath to the impartiality of our proceedings."

G. W. CLINE.
S. C. RODGERS.
G. B. ROE.

APPENDIX TO REPORT.

Note, 20th July 1875.

The committee, while reporting on the Kidderpore Dockyard, trust that they are not traversing beyond their jurisdiction in noticing in passing one point incidentally connected with the yard, and which, as a point of correlative interest, has forced itself on their attention. They make the remark as a general one, which may be justified as one within the limits of their province. They have not embodied it in the Report, nor is it necessary that any action should be taken on it, unless it commends itself to the attention of Government. They believe that some large reforms in the naval dockyard are contemplated, and this note may perhaps not be out of place, with reference to their suggestion XI para. 65.

If the basins in the docks were enlarged; if the executive administration of the yard was strengthened; if, as in the Bombay dockyard, the naval dockyard at Kidderpore extended its operations by docking private ships, some portion of its present charges would be supported by the revenue which it would thus raise annually. Every Government institution, to a certain extent, ought to be self-supporting. It is not the object of Government in any of its departments to show only administrative progress—fiscal considerations must ever be of paramount importance.

In the Kidderpore dockyard, there is material for a large and improved naval dock. The present expenditure, including the pay of the superior officers of the yard, is not very much less than the expenditure of the Bombay dockyard, excluding the salaries of the European mechanical engineers and boiler-makers, and some other incidental expenditure necessary to a very large working yard. But while the expenditure of the Bombay dockyard is met to a very appreciable extent by its own annual income, there is a large annual expenditure in the Calcutta yard without any direct profit returns. During the present year in the Public Works Department, the committee believe that a large sum has been sanctioned for repairing the old basins. A slight accession to that grant might enable that Department to enlarge the basins, so as to accommodate them for the reception of private ships and steamers, and possibly to improve and strengthen by a wall facing the present river embankments, which are open to any boats, and accessible at any time of the night by boat to any one who is unconnected with the dockyard. The increase in the trade resources of Calcutta; the expansion of its commerce; the growth of its exports and imports; and the fact that each year witnesses a steady increase in the shipping of the port, would alike point to the necessity of some increased facilities which the State may offer to the public trading with the port.

The committee would observe that there is not at present in the Hooghly private docks sufficient room to accommodate all the ships which require repairs, and which are employed in the East Indian trade. The great facilities afforded, and the large capabilities of the Kidderpore Dockyard, would enable this desideratum to be supplied. The entrance basin which connects the docks with the river is ample. The depth of water at high tide appears to be sufficient for accommodating ships of greater burthen than any other establishment on the river. The silting of the river at this point is not very considerable. The accumulations of mud could easily be removed by back-water dredges. If the docks were enlarged, the water at high tide would be sufficient to float even some of those steam ships which, owing to the opening of the Suez Canal, now make regular passages between England and India. Increased facilities in docking and repairs would incidentally tend to promote and encourage the resort of foreign ships to the port. By aiding in the extension of trade, the Government would materially increase the prosperity of the town. By decreasing those facilities, it would lessen the number of foreign and English trading ships. Trade would be depressed. The port would not become, what it is so well fitted to be, from the capabilities of the river, the largest port in India.

It is not necessary to observe that any measures which may be adopted to afford increased facilities, and to enlarge our foreign commerce, will be directly as well as indirectly productive of advantage to the port. Nor will the good derived from such measures be estimated by their immediate effects. What the State may give towards those

improvements will be less than what it will eventually get back when those improvements have been effected.

The advantages are too patent to require any recommendation here. Their influence is seen in multiplying and cheapening commodities, in affording an outlet to unemployed capital, in utilizing labor, in giving an impetus to industry, in increasing the productive powers of a people, in adding immeasurably to their acquired wants, in inspiring new tastes and stimulating enterprize and invention, in bringing the manufactures of India into competition with those of foreign countries, in dispelling the apathy and languor of the people, and substituting in their place a spirit of activity and enterprize.

It is not too much to state that the foreign trade of the port would be increased in proportion to the facilities offered by the Government to support that trade. As its commercial relations are increased, as a more perfect freedom of trade is allowed, as restrictive monopolies are removed, as prohibitive navigation laws are permitted to fall into disuse, as our internal and river communications are improved, as our docks and quays are extended, its prosperity will be augmented. Nor is it too much to assert that navigation and naval power are the effects—the direct results of an extended commerce. If commerce is extended by the State by facilities placed in its way, if it is fostered by the State, or if it is extended by the force of those natural laws of supply and demand which the State cannot control, it follows as a natural sequence that there will be a commensurate increase in our naval power. More ships, and an extended machinery and greater requirements, become necessary as our foreign trade is increased, as our commerce is extended. The mercantile navy of India is at present in its infancy. But every one acquainted with the merest ethics of political science must know, that unless there is aid from the State, unless a more powerful machinery is introduced to extend the operations of trade, the ports of India will take rank, as regards their naval importance and their productive powers, below even second class ports.

During the last twenty years the foreign commerce of Calcutta, although experiencing some striking vicissitudes, still shows a steady increase. Nor is the shipping of the port as compared with that of Bombay inconsiderable. In 1873-74, 1,927 ships anchored in the Hooghly. In 1874-75, the number of vessels that arrived and departed amounted to 1,888.

That there is not a sufficiency of dock accommodation at present in Calcutta as compared with Bombay will be seen from the following facts:—

It is estimated that the shipping annually engaged in the trade of India with Europe and America is represented by an average of 2,687 vessels, 82,760,242 tons. Of this amount more than one-third represents the shipping of Calcutta. The shipping of Calcutta is not less than that of Bombay; and if we take the known statistics of three years, we find that of the number and tonnage of vessels trading with India that passed alone through the Suez Canal, the proportion between the two ports will stand as follows:—

Years.		Bengal.		Bombay.	
		Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
1870-71	Entered ...	56	58,358	58	58,566
	Cleared ...	40	43,438	77	74,828
	Total ...	96	101,796	135	133,394
1871-72	Entered ...	89	109,175	90	93,258
	Cleared ...	85	105,065	90	91,303
	Total ...	174	214,240	180	184,561
1872-73	Entered ...	81	105,570	118	132,949
	Cleared ...	66	91,226	100	101,987
	Total ...	147	198,796	218	234,936

During the year 1873-74 there has been an increase, but these statistics show that between the two principal ports of India, the shipping engaged in trade with both ports is represented by nearly the same number of

ships, and if the Government has in Bombay placed every facility before the public for docking and repairs, a similar effort may with advantage be made in Calcutta to meet a great public requirement.

It may be objected that a direct profit from the dockyard, raised by extending the present operations of the naval dockyard, might interfere with private docks such as the P. and O. Dock, the Union, the Commercial, the Hooghly, or the British India Docks. It can be stated in reply, that there is a large amount of shipping which is independent of those docks, and that in Bombay, where there are private docks, no such objection has ever been made.

The legitimate ordinary sources of receipts of the Bombay dockyard consist of hire of dock, warps and boats, of its dockyard services, and supplies to private individuals; of its fees, realized from the shipping offices; its sale proceeds of vessels and stores, and its miscellaneous and pilotage fees. Its charges, on the other hand, are distributed in its payments for its departments of the Master Attendant, and Superintendent of the dock and the marine establishment; for its marine pay and allowances, for the building and repair of ships, for victualling the crews of ships and vessels, for its coal and steam agencies, for its timber and miscellaneous stores. In Calcutta we have nearly all these sources of expenditure, not to the same extent, but very few of those sources of profit.

Since the abolition of the Indian Navy in 1861, the Marine charges have been as follows, of which a large proportion has been appropriated to dockyard charges in Bombay and Calcutta:—

	£
In 1861-62	681,864
„ 1862-63	740,239
„ 1863-64	562,291
„ 1864-65	580,382
„ 1865-66	561,004
„ 1866-67	568,873
„ 1867-68	956,539
„ 1868-69	790,779
„ 1869-70	938,370
„ 1870-71	759,770
„ 1871-72	574,100
„ 1872-73	360,836
„ 1873-74	367,900

It is not necessary to enter in detail the dockyard charges incurred by each Presidency, but the Bombay Presidency has yielded in each year the largest receipts. The expenditure of the Calcutta Marine dockyard service has not been very disproportionate to that of Bombay. Its profit return compared with that of Bombay has been very inconsiderable. The capabilities of the yard are sufficiently large to enable the Government to try the experiment even as a tentative measure of utilizing and extending the operations of the dockyard. The surplus of many description of stores would thus be also utilized. There are five dry docks in the yard besides slips. Before this dock was transferred from the private docking company to the Government, the committee believe that it paid large dividends to its shareholders. They have on record that vessels of 1,500 tons had been taken into these docks for repairs, and as regards sea-going steamers, vessels of 900 tons were frequently docked.

If this dockyard, when under private management, paid, as it appears from old records, 20 per cent. per annum to its shareholders, now that it is under Government control, there is no reason that if its resources are adequately worked, it should not similarly yield a profit.

G. W CLINE.
S. C. RODGERS.
G. B. ROE.

Proceedings of the Special Committee appointed to survey and report on the stores of the Government Dockyard at Kidderpore,—12th February 1875.

Present :

Dr. G. W. Cline, *Barrister-at-Law, President.*

Members :

Capt. S. C. Rodgers. | G. B. Roe, Esq.

Resolution 1. At a meeting of the special committee appointed to survey the stores in the Kidderpore naval dockyard, held this day, 12th February 1875, it is resolved that an application shall be made to the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal for sanction to an addition of Rs. 30 to the pay of the clerk at present employed, and for the employment of two sircars on Rs. 30 per month, to aid the committee in taking stock of the Government stores.

2. It is resolved that the Master Attendant be addressed by the committee to instruct the storekeeper to use his best endeavours to complete at his earliest convenience the work which he has already undertaken of storing the Government stores in the different godowns. The articles should be marked with the Government mark,—the Broad Arrow. This work can be prosecuted simultaneously.

3. The committee having had before them the stock ledgers of the dockyard have found in some instances, in the very first page, that considerable differences exist between the book entries and the results of the inventory.

4. The committee would draw the attention of the Master Attendant to this circumstance, and would request that instructions may be issued to the storekeeper to bring up the stock books up to date.

5. There are altogether eleven stock ledgers. It will take the committee possibly a fortnight to survey and take stock of the stores entered in ledger volume I. There will thus be time to bring up all the remaining ledgers up to date.

6. The committee have expressed a desire not to suggest at present any alterations in the present form of the stock ledgers. That form is employed in the naval dockyard at Bombay, and it has been found to work well. But they would suggest that the alterations now made by them in red ink, as they take stock, be accepted, instead of the results which are shown in the books, except in those cases where the committee's inventory and the stock ledgers agree.

G. W. CLINE.
S. C. RODGERS.
G. B. ROE.

Proceedings of the Special Committee appointed to survey and report on the stores of the Government Dockyard at Kidderpore,—16th February 1875.

Present :

Dr. G. W. Cline, *Barrister-at-Law, President.*

Members :

Capt. S. C. Rodgers. | G. B. Roe, Esq.

At a meeting held this day, on taking inventory of the buoys, there were found to be several in excess of the number entered in the stock ledger, and in the coal yard there were nearly one hundred more, which had no place in the storekeeper's books.

VII.—That no indent or demand notes be complied with unless the Store-keeper's signature is affixed to the document, certifying that the entries have been recorded in the ledger or in the day-book.

VIII.—That the Store-keeper should at frequent intervals satisfy himself of the correctness of the balance of his stores by selecting any stores and ascertaining that the quantity shewn in the ledger agrees with the quantity in store.

IX.—That special clerks, or conductors, now employed under the Store-keeper and his Assistant, be placed in charge of special godowns, and that they be held responsible for the stores in their respective godowns, the Store-keeper and his Assistant excercising a general control and surveillance over them. This will require some readjustment of the duties of some of the executive subordinates employed under the Store-keeper. The advantage under this system would be, that a greater personal responsibility would be secured and enforced against responsible executors, charged with special duties, and who are looked upon as curators and custodians of a limited and known quantity of stores. The varied and responsible work of the Store Department under its present system would be better defined. The unequal experience and intelligence of different men would be utilized by limiting them to special work, and by narrowing their duties to a limited groove. And by thus sub-dividing the present store-issuers into groups, each responsible for their own godowns, it would secure with economy and efficiency and less risk the recognition of the fundamental principle of the responsibility of special persons for their own special work.

X.—That no stores be issued which are not branded with the Government stamp of the Broad Arrow. A special sircar has been sanctioned by the Government of Bengal for this specific work.

XI.—That in consideration of the capabilities of the yard and the large excess of stores, and the increased requirements of the public as far as docks are concerned, owing to an increase in the shipping of the port, that the dock be utilized by being rendered available, as the Government dock in Bombay is, for repairs of private ships trading with the port, thus rendering the dock-yard to a certain extent self-supporting, which at present it is not.

XII.—The committee suggest that the ledgers be corrected according to the results of the inventory. To continue the balances as they are at present borne on the ledgers, so far at variance with the actual balance, would be to perpetuate an error. Previous committees had been appointed to take stock, but their corrections do not appear to have been noted in the ledgers. The data now supplied should serve as an initial point to start from. The corrections should be made by adding or subtracting the differences found between the inventory and ledger balance: at the commencement of any quarter of the year when the ledgers are ordinarily balanced. No efforts, either *ab extra* by the aid of a committee, or *ab intra* by the departmental officers themselves, will be of any avail unless the ledgers are properly corrected, and measures are adopted in future to frequently check the balances by partial inventories.

G. W. CLINE.
S. C. RODGERS.
G. B. ROE.

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